THE NEW
# INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • JULY 10, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

## ISRO TO TRANSFER SSLV TO PRIVATE SECTOR SOON

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will soon transfer its Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) to the private sector, after conducting two development flights of the rocket that seeks to provide on-demand services to put satellites weighing up to 500 kg in a low-earth orbit. The space agency has decided to opt for the bidding route to transfer the mini-rocket to the industry, a senior official said.


WALKING THE TALK...

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Department of Information and Public Relations

Over 4.42 crore people to benefit

HUNGER FREE KARNATAKA

Anna Bhagya

DIRECT BENEFIT TRANSFER FOR 1.28 CRORE RATION CARD HOLDING FAMILIES TO START TODAY

Date: **10.07.2023, Monday, 5.00 pm**
Place: **Room 334, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru**

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister **Shri D.K.Sivakumar** along with **Shri KH Muniappa,** Hon'ble Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs and Legal Metrology Department.

INCLUSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OUR GOVERNMENT'S MOTTO...

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **10 kg** free food grains per month to each beneficiary | **Rs 170** per head per month in lieu of 5 kg additional food grain | **44.80 lakh** Anthyodaya (AAY) and **3.97 crore** Priority house holds (PHH) card holders to benefit from the scheme | Amount transferred directly to the head of the family through **DBT** | **10 thousand** crore rupees in the current budget for project implementation | This month's amount to be credited before **July 31st** |

Published : **Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs and Legal Metrology Department**

As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

## SOUTHERN RAILWAY

(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

**No. ERS/SG/CN-2023-OT/03**

For and on behalf of The President of India, The Deputy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Construction, Ernakulam invites E-Tender for the following works.

**1) Name of the work:** Provision of signalling, interlocking and Telecom arrangements and related modifications in connection with yard modification for augmentation of MEMU SHED at QLN to handle 20 numbers of 16 car MEMU.; **2)** Approximate cost of the work: **₹ 1,12,91,435; 3)** Cost of Tender Form: **Nil; 4)** Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): **₹ 2,06,500; 5)** Completion Period of work: **6 (SIX) months; 6)** Tender Closing Date & Time: **28.07.2023 at 15.30 hrs; 7)** Notice board particulars where details of can be obtained : **Office of the Dy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, (Construction), Southern Railway, Ernakulam Juction;**

**Note:** 1. Value of tender inclusive of GST as per extant rules for the supply and services by the tenderer. 2. Visit **www.ireps.gov.in** for detailed terms and conditions and other details.

Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that our client proposes to purchase the property described in the Schedule herein from **1. Mr. MANAV GUPTA and 2. Mrs. SUCHI GUPTA** which they have purchased on, dated 22/05/2015 bearing Document No. MDP-1-01154/2015-2016 in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Mahadevapura, Bangalore.

Persons objecting for the proposed purchase or having any rights in the below mentioned property may lodge their objections and/or claims with the undersigned along with the supporting documentary evidence to the undersigned

**Schedule Property**

All that Residential Apartment being No. 19117 situated on Level-11 of Block 19- "Strawberry Sunshine" in "PRESTIGE SHANTINIKETAN" constructed in Schedule "C" Property and measuring 2292 Sq. Ft. of super built up area, bearing BBMP Khatha No. 63/S/19117 Old No. 63 and Khatha Serial No. 2339 inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use with right to use ONE Linked Covered Car Parking space in the Basement Level bearing No. 2657, carved out of land parcel situated Sadaramangala/ Hoodi Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, now Bangalore East Taluk (earlier Bangalore South Taluk) and the apartment is bounded by: East by:Apartment No.19118 in Level-11 of Block 19-"Strawberry Sunshine" in "PRESTIGE SHANTINIKETAN";West by:Open towards Open Space in Block 19- "Strawberry Sunshine" in "PRESTIGE SHANTINIKETAN";North by:Open towards Open Space in Block-19-"Strawberry Sunshine" in "PRESTIGE SHANTINIKETAN", and South by:Entrance and Lobby in Level-11 of Block 19- "Strawberry Sunshine" in "PRESTIGE SHANTINIKETAN"

**Adv. Anupam Agarwal,**
**Ramniwas Surajmal (Advocates & Solicitors),**
No. 511, 5th Floor, A Wing, Mittal Tower,
M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560 001.
anupam@rslegal.in M: 97406 45762
Date: 09/07/2023, Place: Bangalore

## IN THE COURT OF XLI ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-42)

**P & SC. No. 376/2023**

**BETWEEN : 1. Mrs. Veena Suresh Bajaj,** Aged about 66 years, W/o Suresh Ramchand Bajaj, D/o Late Nandalal Hassanand Panjabi R/a B202, Taxila Mansions, 5th Main Road, Chandra Reddy Layout, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560047.

**2. Mrs. Bhavna Raja Ram,** Aged about 63 years W/o Raja Ram Thakurdas, D/o Late Nandalal Hassanand Panjabi, R/a 46/11, Ritherdon Road, Kadambari Apartments, Vepery, Chennai-600007.

**3. Mr. Sunil Nandlal Punjabi,** Aged about 63 years, S/o. Late Nandalal Hassanand Panjabi, R/a No.269, 10th Cross, Laxmi Road, Shanthinagar, Bangalore-560027.

**4. Mr. Sanjay Nandlal Panjabi,** Aged about 59 years S/o Late Nandalal Hassanand Panjabi, R/a No.269, 10th Cross, Lakshmi Road, AGA Layout, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560027.

**5. Mr. Suraj Panjabi Nandlal,** Aged about 51 years, S/o Late Nandalal Hassanand Panjabi, R/a A-404, Wilson Manor Apartments, 13th Cross Wilson Garden, Bengaluru-560027.

...PETITIONERS

**AND : Nil** ...RESPONDENTS

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

WHEREAS, the above-named petitioners have made to this court a petition under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act 1925, seeking grant of succession certificate as regards the schedule property belonging to their deceased father Nandlal Hassanand Punjabi who died on 26.07.2016 owned by him during his lifetime in their favour.

Interested parties are hereby warned to appear before the Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge Bengaluru (CCH-42) in person or by pleader duly instructed on this **16.08.2023 at 11.00 A.M** inform to show causes against the petitioners failing which the matter will be heard and disposed off in accordance with law.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY BELONGING TO LATE NANDLAL HASSANAND PUNJABI FOR SUCCESSION CERTIFICATE**

A. Saving Bank Account bearing A/c No. 520101000966955 Union Bank of India, Shanthinagar Branch, Bengaluru, bearing Customer ID No. 2000045425 having a Sum of Rs. 14,49,360.59/-, (Rupees Fourteen Lakhs Forty-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Sixty and Fifty-nine Paisa only).

B. Savings Bank Account bearing A/c No 04572010020846, Canara Bank, Shanthinagar Branch, Bengaluru, bearing Customer ID No.210550179 having a sum of Rs.2,08,358.50/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Eight Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-Eight and Fifty Paisa Only).

C. Fixed Deposit/Term Deposit account bearing No.63037278002, State Bank of Indore, Shanthinagar Branch, Bengaluru, having a sum of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only).

D. Stock bearing No. INE802G01018 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with Jet Airways (India) Limited (6 in Nos).

E. Stock bearing No. INE733E01010 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with NTPC Limited (120 in Nos).

F. Stock bearing No. INE733E07JP6 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with NTPC Limited SR-54 8.49 NCD 25MR25 FVRS10 (100 in Nos).

G. Stock bearing No. INE013A01015 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with Reliance Capital Limited EQ (5 in Nos).

H. Stock bearing No. INE330H01018 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with Reliance Communications Limited EQ (110 in Nos).

I. Stock bearing No. INE217K01011 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with Reliance Home Finance Limited EQ (5 in Nos).

J. Stock bearing No. INE002A01018 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with Reliance Industries Limited EQ (440 in Nos).

K. Stock bearing No. INE036A01016 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with Reliance Infrastructure Limited EQ (8 in Nos).

L. Stock bearing No. INE614G01033 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with Reliance Power Limited EQ NEW RS.10 (27 in Nos).

M. Stock bearing No. INE809C01012 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with VBC Industries Limited EQ (100 in Nos).

N. Stock bearing No. INE386B01013 bearing client ID No. 26506065 with Cyberwave Infrastructure Limited EQ (100 in Nos.).

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 05.07.2023.

**By Order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.**

Advocate for Petitioners and Executors, Bengaluru

**Vivek M S,** Advocate
No.424, 5th Cross, 10th E Main, 1st Block
Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560011.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**DR.V.PAVANI W/o Sri. V.Krishna Kanth intend to purchase residential property bearing Site No.3, having HL No.120, situated in Anjanapura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, B'lore South Taluk, all measuring 1596 Sqft from its owner MR.VENKATESH Son of Late Sri. Munirathnamma @ Rathnamma. Any person having any claim, right, title, interest and ownership over the same may lodge his/her claim along with supporting evidence / documents with DR.V.PAVANI Wife of Sri. V.Krishna Kanth (M:9916278777), within 30 days from this date 06:07:2023, failing which any claim made on or after 30 days will not be binding on me. DR.V.PAVANI Wife of Sri. V.Krishna Kanth (M: 9916278777)**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**MS.FARHEEN KHANUM and MR. IMAMHUSAIN C TOTAD intend to purchase residential property bearing Site No.2, having HL No.120, situated in Anjanapura Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, in all measuring 1596 Sqft from its owner SMT.PARVATHAMMA @ PATTALAMMA Wife of Late Venkatappa and her children. Any person having any claim, right, title, interest and ownership over the same may lodge his/her claim along with supporting evidence / documents with MS.FARHEEN KHANUM (M:9916278777) and MR. IMAMHUSAIN C TOTAD (M: 9916278777), within 30 days from this date 05:07:2023, failing which any claim made on or after 30 days will not be binding on me. MS.FARHEEN KHANUM Wife of Mr. Imamhusain C Totad (M: 9916278777),MR. IMAMHUSAIN C TOTAD Son of Mr. Chamansab Totad (M:9916278777)**

## BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II AT BANGALORE

**Case No : O.A. No.467/2022.**

**Summons under sub-section(4) of Section 19 of the Act, read with sub - rule (2A) of rule 5 of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993**

**State Bank of India,** SARB Bangalore ...**Applicant**

**And:**

Sri. Umashankar ...Defendants

**SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993.**

**To: Sri. Umashankar S.** S/o Sri. B.V Shivakumar, 742, Ground Floor, 14th Cross, J P Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore - 560 078.

R/o i) F - 05,1 st Floor, "Samskruthi" , No.20 Adarsha layout, Talaghattapura Bangalore - 560 062

And also at: ii) Airwaave Communicado India Pvt Ltd, No.353, Sri Durga Arcade, 3rd Floor, 41st Cross 2nd Main, 8th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560082.

**Whereas**, this Applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993, against the Defendant(s) you for recovery of a sum **Rs. 87,65,809/-** (Rupees Eighty Seven Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Nine Only) Defendant(s) is/are therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorised agent, in support of his/their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **22-09-2023 at 10:30 a.m.** (forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default,the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this the **09th day of June 2023**

**By order of the Tribunal**
**Sd/- Registrar**
**Debts Recovery Tribunal - II**

## RAIL WHEEL FACTORY

**Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in**

**NOTICE INVITING 'EXPRESSION OF INTEREST'**

Rail Wheel Factory (RWF) engaged in the manufacture of railway wheels and axles, invites EXPRESSION OF INTEREST for developing sources who are manufacturers and have the capacity to supply the following raw materials/Production consumables to RWF.

| SN | ITEM DESCRIPTION | SN | ITEM DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Ferro Silicon | 2 | Graphite Electrode & Nipple |
| 3 | Graphite Powder | 4 | Calcined lime |
| 5 | Ladle Bricks | 6 | Magnesia Carbon Bricks |
| 7 | Magnesite Wet Ramming Mass | 8 | Ferro Manganese |
| 9 | Graphite Granules | 10 | Silico Manganese |
| 11 | Graphite Mould Blanks 48.2" | 12 | Graphite Mould Blank 43.2" |
| 13 | Heavy Duty Dry Ramming Mass | 14 | Pouring Tube Ceramics |
| 15 | Veegum Granules | 16 | Air Setting Mortar |

**(a)** The RWF specifications and the relevant details are available in RWF Website: **www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in (b)** Last date to submit EOI is on or before **14.08.2023**
For details, contact: 9108501704 – Dy.CMM/P E-mail: dycmm1rwf@gmail.com

**PRINCIPAL CHIEF MATERIAL MANAGER**

## TATA POWER

**(Corporate Contracts Department)**
**The Tata Power Company Limited, Smart Center of Procurement Excellence, 2nd Floor, Sahar Receiving Station, Near Hotel Leela, Sahar Airport Road, Andheri East, Mumbai-400059**
**(Board Line: 022-67173188) CIN: L28920MH1919PLC000567**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

**The Tata Power Company Limited** invites tenders for self / its subsidiaries, from eligible vendors for the following packages (Two Part Bidding).

CC24ADO002: Outline Agreement (OLA) for one year for Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Power Infrastructure in Karnataka State.

**Last date for Bid Submission: 31st July 2023, 15:00 Hrs.**

For detailed NIT, please visit Tender section on website https://www.tatapower.com. Also, all future corrigendum's if any, to the said tender will be informed on Tender section on website https://www.tatapower.com only.

## IN THE COURT OF THE 12th ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BENGALURU

**O.S. No. 7652 of 2022 (CCH - 27)**

Between: **M.S SHYAMASUNDAR**, Son of M.A Srinivasaiah, Aged about 54 years, Residing at 35, Ramaiyengar Road, VV Puram, Bengaluru - 560 004. ...**Plaintiff**

And: **1. INDERJEET SINGH**, Son of Malvinder Singh, Aged about 29 years,

**3. JABM ONE SOURCE PVT. LTD. Also known as OyeSpace,** 2nd Main Road, Nila Investment Layout, Bettadasapura, Electronic City Phase-1, Bengaluru-560 100.

Represented by its Authorized Signatory

**4. SUNIL MOREY SHIVAJIRAO,** Son of Shivaji Rao Morey, Aged about 45 years, **Director, OyeSpace,** Office situated at No. 224/186/24, 1st Floor, 2nd Main Road, Nila Investment Layout, Bettadasapura, Electronic City Phase-1, Bengaluru-560 100.

**6. SHIVAKUMAR .G,** Son of Gopal .L, Aged about 41 years, **General Manager, OyeSpace,** Residing at No. 2191, Vijayrathna Building, Near Sweat Land Bakery, Prashanth Nagar, T.Dasarahalli, Bangalore- 560 057.

...**Defendants**

**ORDER 5, RULE 20 OF CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION**

**NOTICE / SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT No. 3, 4 AND 6**

**WHEREAS** the Plaintiff above named has instituted suit for permanent injunction against the Defendants seeking decree of ejectment directing the Defendants to quit and deliver the vacant possession of the Schedule Property forthwith, arrears of rent, damages and other consequential reliefs, with respect to the Schedule Property. Hence the Defendants are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Court in person, or by a pleader duly instructed, and able to answer all material questions relating to the suit, or who shall be accompanied by some person able to answer all such questions, **on the 11.08.2023 at 11 O'clock,** to answer the claim; (and further you are here by directed to file on that day a written statement of your defense and to produce on the said day all the documents in your possession or power upon which you base your defense or claim for set-off or counter-claim, and where you rely on any other document whether in your possession or power or not, as evidence in support of your defense or claim for-off or counter-claim, you shall enter such documents in a list to be annexed to the written statement).

Take notice that, in default to appearance of Defendant on the day before mentioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of a Residential Apartment bearing No. 337, Minak Nivas, consisting of 3BHK, First Floor, 9th Main Road, 14th Cross, 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560 038.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court on this 20.6.2023.

**By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Curt, Bangalore.**

**ADDRESS FOR SERVICE:**
**Sanjay H. Sethiya,** Advocate
**Assistant Registrar**
Law Square, Advocates & Solicitors,
City Civil Court,
Level Two, No.2/1, 3rd Cross, Bengaluru.
Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560 009.

## THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL

BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House,
Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore – 560 001
DRT - I

Original Application 202/2020

Between:Union Bank of India...Applicant
And
Mr. Dinesh Ramasawamy and others ...Defendants

**SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES OF 1993, TO THE DEFENDANTS NO. 1 to 4 THROUGH PAPER PUBLICATION**

To: **Defendant No.1: Mr. Dinesh Ramaswamy,** Aged about 37 years,S/o Sri Ramaswamy Rawath, Residing at No. 13/16, Murugan Nilaya, Egipura Vivek Nagar post, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560047.

**Defendant No.2 : Smt Anupriya Dinesh Major,** S/o Sadeyan Manikam Residing at No. 13/16, Murugan Nilaya, Egipura Vivek Nagar post, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560047.

**Defendant No.3:M/s. Prabhavathi, Builders and Developers Private Limited,** A registered company represented by its Managing Director Mr. B.E. Praveen Kumar Having office at No. 80, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, 2nd Main, Vysya Bank Gruha Nirmana Shakara Sanga Layout, Near Reliance Fresh, BTM 2nd Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560076.

**Defendant No.4: Mr. B E Praveen Kumar, Major,** S/o Sri Ekambaram Managing Director, M/s Prabhavathi Builders and Developers Private Limited, No. 80, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, 2nd Main, Vysya Bank Gruha Nirmana Shakara Sanga Layout, Near Reliance Fresh, BTM 2nd Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560076.

**Whereas**, the applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against you the defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs.44,28,946/-** together with current and future interest and other reliefs.

You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of the summons on or before **17/11/2023 at 10.30 AM** in the forenoon in person or by a Pleader/ Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand the seal of this Hon'ble Tribunal this the day of **27.06.2023**

**By Order of the Tribunal**
Sd/- Signature of the Officer
Authorised to issue Summons
Debts Recovery Tribunal -I, Bangalore

## THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL

BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House,
Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore – 560 001
DRT - I

Original Application 201/2020

Between:Union Bank of India...Applicant
And
Sri. Ashish Kumar Singh and others ...Defendants

**SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES OF 1993, TO THE DEFENDANTS NO. 1 to 5 THROUGH PAPER PUBLICATION**

To: **Defendant No.1: Sri. Ashish Kumar Singh,** 35 years,S/o Sri Suresh Kumar Singh, Flat No. 203, Plot No. 123 to 125, Suyesh Park Sector - 23, ULWE City, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400710.

**Defendant No.2 : Sri. Ashwini Singh R Chauhan,** Aged 34 years, S/o Sri Raj Kumar Singh Gurudayal Singh Chauchan, Residing at No. 301, NEW SEA WOODS CHS, 50, SEA WOODS, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra 400706

**Defendant No.3:M/s. Prabhavathi, Developers (Owners),** A registered partnership Firm Represented by its Managing Partners: **1. Sri B.E. Praveen Kumar, 2. Sri Girish H.N.** Having office at No. 80, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, 2nd main, Vysya Bank, Gruha Nirmana Shakara Sanga Layout, Near Reliance Fresh, BTM 2nd Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560068

**Defendant No.4: M/s. Prabhavathi, Promoters,** A registered partnership Firm (Developer) Represented by its Managing partners: 1. Sri B.E. Praveen Kumar, 2. Sri Girish H.N. Having office at No. 768, 16th Main Road, Mico Layout, Opposite to Appollo Pharmacy, BTM Layout Bangalore, Karnataka - 560068

**Defendant No.5: Sri B.E. Praveen Kumar, Major,** S/o Sri Ekambaram One of the Managing Partner, M/s Prabhavathi Promoters No.105, 9th Main, S.R. Naidu Layout, Opp. to Golden Park Apartments, Hongasandra, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560068

**Whereas**, the applicant has instituted an application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against you the defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs.63,42,577/-** together with current and future interest and other reliefs.

You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of the summons on or before **17/11/2023 at 10.30 AM** in the forenoon in person or by a Pleader/ Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand the seal of this Hon'ble Tribunal this the day of **27.06.2023**

**By Order of the Tribunal**
Sd/- Signature of the Officer
Authorised to issue Summons
Debts Recovery Tribunal -I, Bangalore

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that, my client has lost the original Sale Deed dated 15.12.1992, registered as Document No.4947/1992-93, Book-I Volume No.3673 pages 248 to 254, registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk executed by **SRI.B.P.Naga Reddy** in favour of my client **Dr.ARIKAT OUSEPH SUNNY,** in respect of property bearing **House List No.29, and Katha No.345,** Situated at **Bellandur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, with one Square Ac Sheet roofing house thereon and measuring East to West 60 feet and North to South 40 feet** and bounded on **East by : 30 feet Road, West by: Site No.18, North by Site No.30, South by Site No.28.,** while in transit. In this regard I have lodged a police complaint before the Bellandur Police, Bangalore on 07.07.2023 vide Acknowledgment No.0632332/2023. The finder of the said document may kindly deliver the same to me and the finder will be suitably rewarded through me.

Public at large may take notice that my client will not be held responsible in the event of unauthorised and illegal use of the said documents by any third party.

**Sd/-**
**Malatesh.S.R,** *Advocate*
No.163, 1st Main, Seshadripuram
Bangalore-560020. M- 9632169330

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of General Public that my Client has intend to purchase residential property more fully described in the Schedule herein, from its owner **Dr.ARIKAT OUSEPH SUNNY,** aged about 63 years, residing at No.239, 18th Main,6th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560095 Any person/s having any right, claim or interest over the Schedule property may lodge their objections/claims in writing to the undersigned, with documentary proof *within 7 days* from the date of this publication. In the event of no claim being received within the stipulated 7 days, my client will proceed with further transactions to purchase the Schedule Property, and no claim/s will be entertained after the said period.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of residential Property residential bearing **House List No.29, and Katha No.345, Situated at Bellandur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, with one Square Ac Sheet roofing house** thereon and measuring **East to West 60 feet and North to South 40 feet, totally measuring 2400 sq. feet,** which is bounded on:

**EAST BY :** 30 feet Road,
**WEST BY :** Site No.18,
**NORTH BY :** Site No.30,
**SOUTH BY :** Site No.28.

**Sd/-**
**Malatesh.S.R,** *Advocate*
No.163, 1st Main, Seshadripuram
Bangalore-560020. **M-9632169330**
Bangalore Date: 09.07.2023

## DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BANGALORE, (DRT -2 )

BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House,
Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore – 560 001.

**O. A. No. 222 / 2022**

**Between:Canara Bank,** Basavanagudi Branch, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560 004 By its Chief Manager Sri S. Balasubramaian ...**Applicant**
**And**
**M/s. T. Shul Wire Works** a Partnership firm Represented by its Partners - Defendant Nos. 2 to 4 . ...**Defendants**

**SUMMONS/NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES OF1993,BY WAY OF SUBSTITUTED SERVICE:**

**To: Defendant No.4:**

**Sri. Ashishkumar Agarwal,** Son of Sri Shashikumar Agarwal, Aged about 28 years, Residing at "Sunshine Apartments" Flat - No. 003, East End 'D' Main Road, 9th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 069. Mobile No: 9845187752.

**Whereas**, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks & Bankruptcy Act, 1993 against the defendant for recovery of sum of **Rs.78,66,865.67ps.** (Rupees Seventy Eight lakhs Sixty Six Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty five and paise Sixty Seven only) mentioned therein together with Current and future interest, costs and other reliefs.

You are required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of this summons on or before **02/11/2023 at 10.30 AM** in person or by a Pleader/Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand the seal of this Tribunal this the day of **22nd day of June 2023.**

**By Order of the Tribunal**
**Sd/-Registrar**
**Debts Recovery Tribunal -II**

## IndiaRF India Resurgence ARC Private Limited

**3rd Floor, Unit No.304, Piramal Tower, Peninsula Corporate Park, Lower Parel, Mumbai-400013**

**APPENDIX IV-A [PROVISO TO RULE 8(6)]**

**NOTICE OF SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY OF THE SECURED ASSET/IMMOVABLE PROPERTY UNDER PROVISO TO RULE 9(1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 R/w. PROVISIONS OF SARFAESI ACT BY INDIA RESURGENCE ARC PRIVATE LIMITED(INDIA RF/SECURED CREDITOR).**

**E-auction sale notice for sale of Immoveable Property under SARFAESI Act, 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to borrowers and guarantors, details whereof are mentioned below, that the below described Immoveable Property mortgaged/charged to the **India Resurgence ARC Private Limited** (India RF/Secured Creditor), the **physical possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **India RF/**Secured Creditor on 23-11-2021 will be sold on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS"** as per the brief particulars mentioned in the schedule.

| S. No. | Name of the Account/ Borrowers/ Guarantors | Name of the owner of the property | Details of Property | Nature of Possession and date | *Outstanding Amount (as on Current Date) & Date of Demand Notice |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | XMORSA100077101 SIGNAGE GRAPHICS, KUMAR AL, USHA K | A L KUMAR | All that piece and parcel of property bearing new corporation/BBMP No.11, PID No.97-70-11, 10th Cross (presently known as 11th Cross), Thimmaiah Garden, Ward No.97 (formerly portion of Sy.No.39, situated at Matadahalli Village, Kasba Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk) Bengaluru, Karnataka-560032 measuring eastern side: 14 + 21 feet, western side: 35 feet, Northern side: 60½ + 29½ feet, Southern side: 99 feet, inall total 2778.50 Square feet **and bounded on: East:** 20 feet Road property belongs to Sri. Narayanaswamy & Sri. Siddaraju, **West:** Government Drain, **North:** property belongs to Sri Ramaiah, **South:** private property. **Alongwith 2071 Sq.Ft.** in Ground Floor, 2071 sq. fts. in first floor and 2071 Sq.Fts. in Second Floor R.C.C. Roofed building thereon. | Physical Possession 23-11-2021 | Rs.2,73,53,673/- [Rupees Two Crore Seventy Three Lakh Fifty Three Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy Three Only] (as on 30-Jun-2023) 15-May-2019 |

| Reserve Price (INR) | EMD/ Bid Increase Amount | Last date of Submission of Bid | Date/ Time of e-Auction | **Known encumbrances if any |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rs.1,35,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Thirty Five Lakh only) | Rs.13,50,000/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Fifty Thousand Only) Bid Increase amount Rs 1,00,000 [Rupees One Lakh] | 28-07-2023 (05.00 P.M) | 31-07-2023 10.00 am to 11:00 am | Nil |

*together with further interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc. incurred up to the date of payment and realisation thereof.

**other than the encumbrances mentioned in the table above, there are no encumbrances on the Immoveable property to the best of knowledge of Authorised Officer of Secured Creditor. The intending bidders should do their own independent diligence regarding the encumbrances, title of the Immoveable Property. The Authorised Officer/ Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third-party claims/ rights/ dues.

**TERMS & CONDITIONS**

1. The property & property documents can be inspected, with prior appointment with Authorized Officer of India RF/Secured Creditor on or before the date of sale of Secured Assets.
2. The interested buyer shall submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) to Elexa Resolution Advisors LLP, duly authorized service provider of India RF/Secured Creditor at their office at 601, 6th Floor, Time Towers, Sector 28, MG Road, Gurugram, Haryana-122002 through Demand Draft/NEFT/RTGS/PAY ORDER in favor of **"India Resurgence ARC Trust IV", HDFC Bank Limited, Account Number- 57500000341064, IFSC Code: HDFC0000060 payable at Mumbai.** Please note that the Cheques shall not be accepted as EMD amount.
3. The intending purchaser shall immediately pay 25% of the amount of sale price (inclusive of the earnest money already deposited) on the same day or not later than next working day from the date of confirmation of sale in favor of Secured Creditor in the account as mentioned hereinabove. The balance 75% of the sale price shall be paid on or before 15th day of confirmation of sale.
4. In case of default of payment within the prescribed time mentioned above, the amounts deposited by the purchaser shall be forfeited by the India RF/Secured Creditor and the property shall be resold by the Secured creditor. All the claims and rights over the property of the defaulting purchaser shall stand forfeited.
5. In case of non-acceptance of offer of purchase by the India RF/Secured Creditor, the EMD shall be refunded without any interest.
6. The Secured Asset is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to the India RF/Secured Creditor. The Authorized Officer of India RF/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third-party claims/ rights/ dues. Therefore, the purchaser should conduct due diligence on all aspects related to the Secured Assets to his satisfaction and shall not be entitled to make any claim against the Authorized Officer/ India RF/Secured Creditor in this regard at the later stage.
7. Offers may be made in writing to the India RF/Secured Creditor which shall mention the EMD intended to be deposited and the offer price. The interested parties may contact the Authorized Officer for further details/ clarifications and for submitting their application. In case of more than one offer, the India RF/Secured Creditor will accept the highest offer.
8. The Authorized Officer in its sole discretion may accept or reject any offer, adjourn/ postpone/ cancel the sale without any prior notice and without assigning any reason thereof.
9. Once the terms of the payments mentioned above have been complied with, the Authorized Officer shall issue certificate of sale of the immovable property in favor of the purchaser.
10. The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties/ additional stamp duty/ transfer charges, fees etc. and also all the statutory/ non-statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessment charges, fees etc. owing to anybody in relation to the property.
11. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained hereinabove, if the borrower has paid the outstanding amount along with future interest computable till the date of payment in full any time before the date of publication of this notice for public auction, in such an event in terms of section 13 (8) of SARFAESI Act, 2002, the Secured Creditor shall not transfer the Secured Assets by way of lease, assignment or sale.

**Date: 10-07-2023, Place: Bangalore** **Sd/- Authorised Officer, India Resurgence ARC Private Limited**

## HDFC BANK

We understand your world

एच डी एफ सी बैंक
हम समझें आपकी दुनिया

**HDFC BANK LTD, No. 103/31, 26th Main Road, 4th T Block, Jayanagar, Near R. V. College, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 041.**

**Demand Notice under Sub Section 2 of Section 13 of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act,2002 (hereinafter referred to as "The Act".)**

We, HDFC BANK LTD hereinafter called as "Bank" do here by issue notice as under. Please take notice that you the following had availed a loan details of which have been mentioned hereunder. Towards the said loan you have created security interest in favour of the Bank on the property described hereunder by way of mortgage by depositing title deed. After availing the said loan, contrary to the contractual obligations you have defaulted repayment of the loan amount together with interest and other charges. Hence, your loan account has been categorized as Non Performing Asset.

Therefore, the Bank hereby recall the entire loan and call upon you to pay total amount outstanding in your loan account together with interest and all other charges thereon (details of which have been mentioned hereunder), within 60 (Sixty) days from the date of this Notice. Further, You are hereby put on notice that in terms of Sec.13 (13) of the SARFAESI Act, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured asset detailed hereunder.

If you fail to repay the Bank the outstanding amount, the Bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under Sec 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act. This notice is without prejudice to the Bank's right to initiate such other or further legal proceedings, as it deems necessary under any applicable provisions of law.

| Sl. No. | Name & Address of Borrower/ Co Borrowers | Description of property (Secured Assets) | Loan A/c No & Amount | Date of NPA | Total Amount /Outstanding Amount |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | **1.Mr. Puneeth Devaraddeppa Reddy,** S/o. Devareddeppa Reddy, No. 5, 1st C Main Road Behind Club Road, Vijayanagar, 2nd Stage, Bangalore North TK, Vijayanagar - 560 040, Bangalore Mob : 9880463339, **(Applicant)** **2. Mr. Devareddy Yenkappa Radder** S/o. Yenakappa Redder, No. 5, 1st C Main Road, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bangalore North TK, Vijayanagar - 560 040, Bangalore Mob : 9845303555 **(Co- Applicant)** **3. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Betageri,** No. 5, Chethana 1st C Main Road, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bangalore Dt. Vijayanagar - 560 040, Bangalore **(Co- Applicant)** | **Property Details:** House Property situated at VCNS Layout, R. P. C. Layout, Vijayanagara, Bengaluru, bearing Property No. 5. **Address of the Property :** House Property situated at VCNS Layout, R. P. C. Layout, Vijayanagara, Bengaluru, bearing Property No. 5. **Boundary :** North : Property of No. 18, South : 30 feet Road, East : Property of No. 6, West : Property of No. 4. **Area:** 30 feet (9.24 Mtr) and North to South 65 feet (19.81 Mtr) **Owner Name :** Smt Vijayalakxhmi No. 5, Chetana, 1st C Main Road, RPC Layout, Vijayanagara, Bengaluru, Pincode - 560 040. | 50200046262043 ₹.1,60,00,000/- 84170578 ₹.24,000,000/- | 01-04-2023 | ₹5,02,10,133/- as on 30.06.2023 |

**Place : Bangalore**
**Date : 06.07.2023**

**Regd.Office : HDFC Bank Limited, HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013.**

**Sd/- Authorised Officer, HDFC BANK Ltd.,**

Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
INDULGE
Your Guide to Spicy Living

## FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD. AUCTION NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large, that FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD., has decided to conduct Auction of Gold ornaments belonging to accounts (mentioned below) which have become overdue or which have defaults or margin breach of customers. The Auction would be held at respective Branches specified below on **Thursday 20-07-2023 between 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.** This would continue till the auction process is over.

**Anekal** 080-27830505 **FEDGL0088**0003424, 0003442, 0003457 **Arakalgud** 08175-220780 **FEDGL0036**0008988, 0009023, 0009052, 0009068, 0009081, 0009089, 0009103, 0009109, 0009165, 0009168, 0009170, 0009176, 0009180, 0009185, 0009187, 0009188, 0009190, 0009192, 0009203, 0010475 **Arasikere** 08174-299941 **FEDGL0414**0001306, 0001352, 0001834, 0002739, 0002899, 0002833 **B H Road** 8162277793 **FEDGL0103**0007880, 0007881, 0007885, 0007938, 0007961, 0007967, 0007991, 0008054, 0008077, 0008896, 0009057, 0010180, 0011181 **BASAVESHWARA NAGAR** 080 41900282 **FEDGL0011**0009620, 0009642, 0010013, 0010517, 0011004, 0010477, 0011091, **FEDDS0011**0000040 **BELGAUM** 0831 4201487 **FEDGL0136**0003924, 0003925, 0003938, 0003971, 0003974, 0003981, 0003988, 0004006, 0004009, 0004010, 0004015, 0004019, 0004028, 0005335, 0005114, 0005336, 0004051 **BELUR** 08177 222100 **FEDGL0159**0008090, 0008099, 0008101, 0008106, 0008109, 0008112, 0008113, 0008138, 0008153, 0008154, 0008155, 0008161, 0008163, 0008166, 0008186, 0008187, 0008192, 0008202, 0008209, 0008212, 0008215, 0008216, 0008226, 0008229, 0008230, 0008231 **BOMMANAHALLI** 080 41500417 **FEDGL0014**0006196 **BTM LAYOUT** 080-41312231 **FEDDS0003**0000024, 0005230, 0005231, 0005249, 0005264, 0005676, 0006044, 0005939, 0006106, 0005582 **BYADGI** 8375229022 **FEDGL0051**0007813, 0007815, 0007818, 0007821, 0007832, 0007856, 0007865, 0007871, 0007877, 0007885, 0007894, 0007901, 0007902, 0007909, 0007916, 0007926, 0007930, 0007933, 0007942, 0007955, 0007976, 0007982, 0007984, 0007999, 0008002, 0008003, 0008005, 0008011, 0008015, 0008016, 0008017, 0008020, 0008021, 0008571, 0009496, 0009552, 0010215, 0010261, 0009884, 0010262, 0008777 **Caltex Circle** 8162277972 **FEDGL0102**0007865, 0007869, 0007881, 0007890, 0007939, 0007956, 0007971, 0007988, 0007990, 0007998, 0008012, 0008028, 0008634, 0008697, 0008704, 0010642, 0010624, 0010685, 0010669, 0010712, 0010658, 0010650, 0010698, 0010790, 0011924, 0010486, 0010298, 0010548, 0010565, 0010614, 0010672, 0011018, 0011033, 0011040, 0011262 **Car Street Bellary** 8392276005 **FEDGL0092**0002771, 0002819, 0003335, 0003365, 0003406, 0003685, 0003201, 0003686, 0003200, 0003702, 0003701, 0003719, 0003717, 0003733,, 0003715, 0003698, 0003616, 0003647 **CHANNAPATNA** 080 27256046 **FEDGL0176**0016466, 0016486, 0016503, 0016511, 0016515, 0016523, 0016546, 0016557, 0016560, 0016562, 0016566, 0016605, 0016609, 0016613, 0016623, 0016627, 0016629, 0016630, 0016635, 0016650, 0016651, 0016663, 0016670, 0017265, 0018038, 0018091, 0018122, 0018060, 0018994, 0018097, 0018933, 0018695, 0018571, **FEDDS0176**0000003 **CHENRAYAPATNA** 08176 252477 **FEDGL0158**0018279, 0018297, 0018305, 0018346, 0018361, 0018371, 0018378, 0018386, 0018390, 0018437, 0018449, 0018492, 0018496, 0018500, 0018501, 0018523, 0018528, 0018536, 0018538, 0019262, 0020195, 0020255 **CHIKKAMAGALUR** 08262 228286 **FEDGL0021**0006254, 0006267, 0006271, 0006273, 0006274, 0006919, 0006932 **DAVANGERE** 08192-252111 **FEDGL0229**0008002, 0008004, 0008026, 0008041, 0008043, 0008078, 0008081, 0008094, 0008415, 0008459, **FEDDS0229**0000006, **FEDBD0229**0000011 **Dharwad** 0836 - 2970229 **FEDGL0233**0004824, 0004832, 0004833, 0004840, 0004858, 0004868, 0004871, 0004991, 0005014, 0005198, **FEDBD0233**0000002 **Gadag** 08372-200075 **FEDGL0420**0001090, 0001118, 0001199, 0001230, 0001236, 0001196, 0003502, 0003555, 0001243, 0003498, 0003556, 0002330, 0003488, 0003499, 0003554, **FEDBD0420**0000006 **Gangavathi** 8533234018 **FEDGL0094**0003813, 0003818, 0003845, 0003855, 0003863, 0003864, 0003871, 0003873 **Gubbi** 8131222850 **FEDGL0046**0009024, 0009025, 0009026, 0009054, 0009067, 0009079, 0009085, 0009108, 0009134, 0009136, 0009138, 0009144, 0009146, 0009149, 0009158, 0009159, 0009180, 0009193, 0009206, 0009215, 0009216, 0009221, 0009246, 0010019, 0010020, 0012060, 0010779, 0012062, 0010778 **Gundalpete** 08229-295128 **FEDGL0383**0001622, 0001623, 0001632, 0001662 **H D Kote** 08228-297033 **FEDGL0058**0006969, 0006976, 0007001, 0007004, 0007010, 0007023, 0007028, 0007044, 0007051, 0007067, 0007079, 0007081, 0007487, 0008005, 0008457, 0008408 **Hagaribommanhalli** 08397-239003 **FEDGL0100**0006660, 0006667, 0006671, 0006672, 0006673, 0006674, 0006682, 0006692, 0006707, 0006715, 0006735, 0006762, 0006770, 0006788, 0006793, 0006800, 0006807, 0006812, 0006824, 0006834, 0006835, 0006836, 0006854, 0007461, 0008120, 0008205, 0008224, 0008841, 0009536, 0008888, 0008886, 0008992, 0008509, 0009006, 0009004, **FEDBD0100**0000006 **HANSUR** 08222 250114 **FEDGL0162**0014903, 0014944, 0014949, 0014973, 0015023, 0015024, 0015045, 0015890, 0015504, 0016318, 0016540, 0016601, 0016636 **HARIHAR** 08192-242865 **FEDGL0022**0011998, 0012035, 0012046, 0012058, 0012061, 0012099, 0012107, 0012115, 0012117, 0012549, 0012556, 0012665, 0013219, 0013226, 0013234, 0013266 **HASSAN MARKET** 08172 235324 **FEDGL0157**0009867, 0009877, 0009880, 0009889, 0009892, 0009933 **HAVERI** 8375232810 **FEDGL0181**0008809, 0008832, 0008843, 0008851, 0008859, 0008863, 0008873, 0008889 **HENNUR** 080-41979377 **FEDGL0015**0003856 **Holenarsipura** 08175-273733 **FEDGL0059**0016359, 0016429, 0016433, 0016434, 0016449, 0016472, 0016473, 0016481, 0016501, 0016543, 0016545, 0016556, 0016569, 0016589, 0016602, 0016612, 0016616, 0016628, 0016636, 0017462, 0017498, 0017505, 0017506, 0018871, 0019888, 0019199 **HOSA ROAD** 080-257444811 **FEDGL0002**0010238, 0010747, 0011991, 0011934, 0012021, 0011090, 0012173, 0012248, 0012374, 0012380, 0012611 **Hosadurga** 8199200023 **FEDGL0412**0001550, 0001604 **Hospet** 08394-226899 **FEDGL0099**0005343, 0005347, 0005349, 0005362, 0005382, 0005400, 0005401, 0005402, 0005404, 0005409, 0005410, 0005412, 0005417, 0005423, 0005425, 0005427, 0005444, 0005887, 0005903, 0005905, 0005907, 0005988, 0006477, 0007060, 0007160, 0006895 **JEEVAN BHEEMA NAGAR** 080 41900283 **FEDGL0019**0002738, 0002761, 0002772, 0002776, 0003056, 0003273, 0003108 **K R NAGAR** 08223 262045 **FEDGL0161**0009641, 0009673, 0009674, 0009700, 0009708, 0009710, 0009727, 0009729, 0009740, 0009744, 0009745, 0009755, 0010709, 0010716, 0010752 **K R Pete** 08230-262886 **FEDGL0063**0005853, 0005895, 0005936, 0006803, 0007266, 0006895, 0007267, 0006116, 0007364, 0006700, 0007384, 0006339 **K R PURAM** 080 25610669 **FEDGL0012**0011116, 0011117, 0011130, 0011142, 0011164, 0011479, 0012277, 0011927, 0012306, 0011991, 0012096, 0012509, 0012609, 0012760, **FEDDS0012**0000028 **K R ROAD** 8192272223 **FEDGL0037**0004462, 0004475, 0004516, 0004521, 0004831, **FEDDS0037**0000018 **Kadur** 08267-200280 **FEDGL0487**0000893, 0000897, 0000937, 0000970 **KAMMANAHALLI** 080 40926572 **FEDGL0005**0003623, 0003778, 0004003, 0003816, 0004592 **Kampli** 08394-250822 **FEDGL0095**0005549, 0005552, 0005555, 0005561, 0005581, 0005598, 0005607, 0005624, 0005628, 0005629, 0005641, 0005646, 0005648, 0005655, 0005657, 0005663, 0006100, 0006530, 0006590, 0007067, 0006482 **Kappogal Road Bellary** 08392-255005 **FEDGL0093**0002874, 0002875, 0002883, 0002902, 0002903, 0002908, 0002910, 0002911, 0002912, 0002914, 0002916, 0002919, 0002922, 0002924, 0002938, 0002945, 0002954 **KOPIKAR ROAD** 8362362444 **FEDGL0155**0006385, 0006388, 0006389, 0006390, 0006408, 0006412, 0006432, 0007087, 0007480, 0007161, 0007424, 0006934, 0007724, 0007455, 0007192, 0007828, 0007456, 0007193, 0007880 **Koppal** 8539200090 **FEDGL0403**0000834, 0000835, 0000890, 0001079, 0001847, 0001820, 0001855, 0001572, 0001856, 0001632, 0001857, 0001365 **Kudligi** 08391-299920 **FEDGL0404**0001304, 0001313, 0001325, 0001344, 0001345, 0001366, 0001373, 0001381, 0001387, 0001412, 0001415, 0001417, 0001421, 0001428, 0001429, 0001439, 0001898, 0002636, 0003390, **FEDBD0404**0000003 **KUnigal** 08162-220155 **FEDGL0121**0005599, 0005600, 0005626, 0005627, 0005637, 0005673, 0005687, 0005699, 0005749, 0005752, 0005757, 0005760, 0005763, 0007092, 0007632, 0007878, 0007569 **Laxmeshwara** 8487200005 **FEDGL0407**0000721, 0000723, 0000731, 0000785, 0000799, 0001169 **Madhugiri** 8137200547 **FEDGL0393**0001992, 0002053, 0002054, 0002092, 0004532, 0004520 **Malavalli** 08321-244588 **FEDGL0365**0002832, 0002853, 0002870, 0002876, 0002884, 0002886, 0003810, 0003860, 0004855 **Malebennur** 08192-299566 **FEDGL0062**0008808, 0008855, 0008878, 0008894, 0008915, 0008961, 0009458, 0010096, 0008882, 0010846, 0011050 **MANDIMOHALLA** 8214264270 **FEDGL0174**0008356, 0008423 **MANDYA** 08232 239585 **FEDGL0163**0006822, 0006854, 0006855, 0007435, 0007798, 0007395, 0008145 **Mundargi** 08371-295011 **FEDGL0064**0005689, 0005701, 0005704, 0005718, 0005739, 0005755, 0005771, 0005799, 0005801, 0005819, 0005833, 0005834, 0005837, 0005848, 0005852, 0005857, 0005863, 0005865, 0005868, 0006347, 0006365, 0007012, 0007013 **Nagarbhavi** 8023356022 **FEDDS0031**0000057, 0004302, 0004954, 0005292, 0005113, 0004894, 0005390, 0005609 **NANJANGODE** 08221 223326 **FEDGL0160**0010966, 0011037, 0011048, 0011050, 0011073, 0011096, 0011099, 0011100, 0011105, 0011108, 0011109, 0011117, 0011125, 0011628, 0012923, 0011850, 0013005, 0012558, 0013273, 0013405, 0013694 **Nelamangala** 08029911005 **FEDGL0392**0000845, 0001609, 0001999, 0001727 **Pavagada** 08136-295608 **FEDGL0377**0003907, 0003916, 0003919, 0003921, 0003936, 0003947, 0003954, 0003965, 0003982, 0003984, 0003994, 0004016, 0004018, 0004019, 0004032, 0004045, 0004048, 0004056, 0004075, 0004082, 0004083, 0004089, 0004090, 0004092, 0004096, 0004100, 0004102, 0004107, 0004807, 0004808, 0004968 **Periapatna** 08223-297589 **FEDGL0044**0005917, 0005939, 0005968, 0005978, 0007125 **RAJAJI NAGAR** 080 41902910 **FEDGL0004**0003486, 0003673, 0003680, 0004104, 0004071, 0004285 **Ramamurthy Nagar** 8041225616 **FEDDS0035**0000036, 0001774 **RAMANAGARA** 080 27275627 **FEDGL0180**0018341, 0018359, 0018375, 0018402, 0018403, 0018451, 0018459, 0018468, 0018477, 0018483, 0018487, 0018515, 0018563, 0018573, 0018576, 0018596, 0018602, 0018649, 0018651, 0020448, 0020460, 0020476, 0020500, 0020572, 0020588, 0020609, 0018662, 0022418, 0021513, 0021485, 0021581, 0021127, 0021620, 0020693, 0021677, 0020811, 0020429, 0021119, 0021407, 0021603, 0020838, 0022282, 0022500, **FEDDS0180**0000034 **RAMASWAMY CIRCLE** 8214253754 **FEDGL0173**0006436, 0006683, 0006684, 0006696, 0006698, 0006890, 0006883 **RANEBENNUR** 08373 - 297397 **FEDGL0232**0008428, 0008455, 0008456, 0008486, 0008489, 0008503, 0008504, 0008515, 0008535, 0008538, 0008543, 0008545, 0008559, 0010172 **SHIMOGA** 08123115765 **FEDGL0183**0008938, 0008943, 0008945, 0008947, 0008956, 0008962, 0008986, 0009002, 0009004, 0009005, 0009006, 0009757, 0009806, 0009816 **Sindhanur** 08535-200110 **FEDGL0461**0000903, 0000909, 0000915, 0000920, 0000949, 0000951 **Sira** 08135-295620 **FEDGL0376**0003533, 0003565, 0003571, 0003615, 0003620, 0003625, 0003725, 0006374, 0003735 **SIRSI** 08384-223365 **FEDGL0193**0006148, 0006159, 0006161, 0006162, 0006170, 0006171, 0006172, 0006175, 0006177, 0006194, 0006204, 0006205, 0006209, 0006221, 0006238, 0007010, 0006309, 0007013, 0006518, 0007015, 0007011 **SULTHANPLYA** 080 41636281 **FEDGL0013**0004293, 0004299 **Tarikere** 08261-200233 **FEDGL0415**0001052, 0001087, 0001121, 0001540, 0002412,, 0001557, 0002466,, 0002405, 0002497, 0002266, 0002282, 0002318, 0002508 **Tiptur** 8134252402 **FEDGL0047**0007083, 0007093, 0007116, 0007121, 0007122, 0007140, 0007146, 0007148, 0007161, 0007485, 0007886, 0007907, 0007928 **Turuvekere** 8139295735 **FEDGL0386**0002369, 0002394, 0002396, 0002414, 0002462, 0002515 **Yeshwantpur** 8041225684 **FEDGL0034**0003284, 0003313, 0003338, 0004606, 0004209, 0004607, 0004208, 0004638, 0004637, 0004608, 0004377, 0005266, 0004620, 0004180, 0004313, 0004657, 0003913, 0005057, 0004658, 0003918, 0005058

Change in Venue or Date, if any will be displayed on our Website www.fedfina.com. All bidders participating will be intimated subsequently with respect to acceptance or rejection of bids submitted by them. Customer who want to release their ornaments shall visit at the base branch wherein the ornaments were pledged by the customer or contact at the number mentioned above on/or before 19-07-2023 subject to the terms and condition applicable.

Auction will be conducted at respective branches, in case the auction does not get completed on the given date due to any reasons, the auction in respect thereto shall be conducted on subsequent working days at district level branch after displaying the details on our Website. No further communication shall be issued in this regard.

**Dated : 10-07-2023** **For, sd/- Authorised Signatory**
**Place : Karnataka** **Fedbank Financial Services Ltd.,**

All the news. In just a click.
Log to www.newindianexpress.com
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
/thenewindianxpress
@newindianxpress
The New Indian Express

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • JULY 10, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

READ SHARE FOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
facebook.com/thenewindianxpress twitter.com/newindianxpress
instagram.com/newindianexpress

### US-CHINA TIES 'ON SURER FOOTING', SAYS YELLEN AFTER BEIJING TRIP

**The US Treasury Secretary said her talks with top Chinese officials were productive and a step forward in taking US-China ties to the next level**

### AGREEMENT ON IMPROVING COMMUNICATION

Although there was no agreement related to major disputes, the two countries vowed to strengthen communications to ease tensions. "We will open up channels so that they can express concerns about our actions, and we can explain... and possibly respond to unintended consequences of our action," Janet Yellen told journalists at the end of her four-day visit to China

### 'SIGNS OF RAINBOWS AFTER WIND AND RAIN'

- Yellen tried to allay one of the key concerns of Beijing related to US control on investments in China, saying the policy would be implemented transparently and would target only sensitive sectors
- Chinese premier Li Qiang said US-China ties will see "rainbows" after "wind and rain" and called on Washington to be more pragmatic

### 10 HOURS

OF TALKS HELD BY YELLEN WITH SENIOR CHINESE OFFICIALS OVER FOUR DAYS

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

# 13 dead as heavy rains, landslides and flash floods lash north India

Eight killed in Uttarakhand, five in Himachal Pradesh; Delhi witnesses record rain in 40 years

HARPREET BAJWA, NARENDRA SETHI & ASHISH SRIVASTAVA
@ Chandigarh / Dehradun / New Delhi

EXTREMELY heavy rains, landslides and flashfloods battered much of north India on Sunday, unleashing widespread damage and misery in Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, and Delhi, leaving at least 13 dead.

In Uttarakhand, eight persons were killed in separate incidents. Six died when an SUV carrying pilgrims fell into the Ganga. The toll could go up as some are reportedly missing.

In view of the rains, landslides and road blockades, the Uttarakhand government has banned tourists from other states for the time being. As many as 195 roads are blocked in the state. The state meteorological department has predicted a repeat of the weather till July 12. The district administration of Nainital has announced closure of all educational institutions till July 13.

Himachal Pradesh, which witnessed 13 landslides and nine flashfloods in the past 36 hours, reported five deaths and extensive damage to houses. A total of 736 roads, including the Chandigarh-Manali national highway, remain blocked. The government has said schools and colleges will remain closed for the next two days.

(Left) Beas river in spate eating away parts of the Manali-Chandigarh highway and (top) vehicles buried after a landslide in Shimla on Sunday | PTI

The Beas river is flowing above the danger mark after flood gates of Pandoh dam were opened to release excess water from the overnight downpour.

According to the state emergency operation centre, heavy rains wreaked havoc in Mandi, Kullu and Lahaul and Spiti districts causing considerable loss to property. Many shops were washed away in flash floods at Bahang near Manali, while an under-construction house was submerged as the Beas flooded near Patlikuhal in Kullu.

All the major rivers, including Ravi, Beas and Satluj, are in spate and tourists have been asked to avoid travelling during heavy rains and not to venture out near river bodies.

Meanwhile, the Punjab government has sought the Army's help to deal with floods in the Mohali district.

Delhi on Sunday recorded the highest single-day rainfall for July in the last 41 years at 153 mm. The last time the national capital got such a downpour was on July 25, 1982.

According to IMD, the intensity of the rainfall will weaken from July 10 onwards.

#### Delhi braces for flood

The Delhi govt issued a flood warning on Sunday as Haryana released over 1 lakh cusecs of water into the Yamuna river from the Hathnikund barrage. The water takes 2-3 days to reach Delhi

#### 17 trains cancelled

The Northern Railways said it has cancelled around 17 trains and diverted around 12 others, while traffic has been suspended at four locations due to waterlogging

RICE SCHEME

## Cash distribution for Anna Bhagya from today

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah is scheduled to launch the 'Anna Bhagya' scheme by distributing cheques to a few beneficiaries at the Conference Hall of Vidhana Soudha at 5 pm on Monday.

Since the government cannot procure the required quantity of rice for the scheme, it is giving cash of Rs 170 per month per beneficiary against 5 kg of rice at Rs 34 per kg. Around 4.42 crore people from 1.28 crore families, including BPL and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) card holders, are expected to benefit. The CM, who is also the finance minister, allocated Rs 10,275 crore for the scheme for the 2023-24 fiscal year in the budget at Rs 856.25 crore per month.

The government had promised to launch the scheme on July 1. But it faced hurdles, as the Union Consumer Affairs Ministry and Department of Food and Public Distribution took a policy decision to discontinue the sale of rice and wheat to states under the Open Market Sale Scheme-Domestic (OMSS-D).

Caught in a bind, the state government decided to pay cash, instead of rice, to beneficiaries until the rice supplies were ensured. Now, the government has called for tenders to get the staple.

Of the five guarantees Congress had promised in the run-up to the Assembly polls, the government has launched the Gruha Shakti, allowing women to travel free in all non-premium KSRTC buses, while the process is on to start Gruha Jyothi, which provides 200 units of free electricity, Gruha Laksmi to give Rs 2,000 per month for women heads of every family, and Yuva Nidhi, which gives Rs 3,000 for unemployed graduates and Rs 1,5000 for diploma.

Siddaramaiah allocated Rs 35,410 crore in the budget for all the five guarantees for the 2023-24 financial year.

## Toll in Bengal violence hits 17, guv in Delhi

PRANAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

TOLL in West Bengal violence rose to 17 with five more people succumbing to injuries on Sunday, even as state governor C V Ananda Bose flew to Delhi on an unscheduled visit.

Of the five who died on Sunday, three were from the Trinamool Congress camp. They were killed in Cooch Behar, North Dinajpur and Murshidabad districts. The other deaths, reported from North Dinajpur district, were of two Congress workers.

Governor Bose is likely to meet Union home minister Amit Shah and submit a report on the situation. He had visited a number of areas in Kolkata's adjoining North 24 Parganas district soon after the violence that erupted during Saturday's local body elections and took stock of the situation.

Meanwhile, protests were held by Opposition parties at several places in the state alleging intimidation and false voting by the TMC.

In Birbhum, where BJP once made inroads, workers of the saffron camp took refuge in party offices fearing attack by the Trinamool workers. "They threatened us with dire consequences," said a BJP worker.

## Rain deficit, but there is a silver lining in Karnataka

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

IN spite of Karnataka facing a severe deficit in rainfall since the launch of monsoon a few weeks ago, rain has picked up pace, and over the next few weeks, the deficit is likely to be fully covered. With this, experts are suggesting farmers to go for long-duration crops as the rainfall will be normal for the next two months.

A report by the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Management Centre (KSNDMC) stated that many parts of the state recorded a deficit in rainfall from June 1 to July 9. As many as 22 districts witnessed a deficit, one district (Bagalkot) recorded a large deficit, six districts received normal rainfall and two districts witnessed excess rainfall. As it has been raining in many parts of the state for the last one week, the situation is improving and the deficit is coming down. Experts said the forecast seems to be good for the next few days.

According to KSNDMC data, as on July 3, 35 taluks had received normal rainfall and this has now increased to 75 taluks. While large deficit taluks were 70 on July 3, the number has come down to 24 taluks as on Sunday. GS Srinivas Reddy, former director of KSNDMC, who is now serving as a scientific officer, told *The New indian Express* that the state showed a 66 per cent deficit a few days ago and last week it came down to 32 per cent. P7

A bridge submerged under floodwaters in Cheyandane, Kodagu, on Sunday

#### TALUKWISE RAINFALL

| | July 3 | July 9 |
|---|---|---|
| Large Excess | 1 | 3 |
| Excess | 8 | 11 |
| Normal | 35 | 75 |
| Deficit | 113 | 114 |
| Large Deficit | 70 | 24 |

## BJP inducts 10 leaders into national executive panel

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

AS part of the ongoing exercise to strengthen the party ahead of the 2024 general elections, the Bharatiya Janata Party late on Saturday night inducted 10 senior leaders, including eight former presidents of the party's state units, to the powerful national executive committee (NEC).

The eight former state chiefs include Bandi Sanjay Kumar (Telangana), Somu Veerraju (Andhra Pradesh), Deepak Prakash (Jharkhand), Satish Punia (Rajasthan), Sanjay Jaiswal (Bihar), Ashwani Sharma (Punjab), Suresh Kashyap (Himachal) and Vishnudeo Sai (Chhattisgarh).

Chhattisgarh BJP leader Dharamlal Kaushik and and Rajasthan leader Kirodi Lal Meena are the other members of the NEC, a party statement said.

The NEC in the BJP acts as the apex decision and policy-making body with a galaxy of experienced leaders as members including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and national president J P Nadda. It has five presidents, five general secretaries, one general secretary (organisation) besides members. The NEC has 90 regular members 50 special invitees, 179 permanent invitees including the chief ministers and deputy CMs of BJP-ruled states.

#### Modi may contest from Ramnad in TN

At a meeting of BJP's regional state presidents in Hyderabad chaired by the party's national president J P Nadda, a majority of the attendees were of the opinion that PM Narendra Modi should contest the Lok Sabha election from Ramanathapuram in Tamil Nadu | P9

AB SARA INDIA BOLEGA
YONO it
EVERY INDIAN CAN NOW ENJOY PAYMENTS, LOANS AND MUCH MORE
ANYONE, ANY BANK, ANY TIME
OPEN TO USERS WITH OR WITHOUT SBI ACCOUNT
yono SBI for every Indian
Banking . Payments . Lifestyle
yono SBI
Lifestyle & banking, dono.
Secure payments
SBI's legacy of trust
Easy to download
User friendly interface
Scan to Download

EXPRESS READ

### Last rites of Jain muni conducted in Belagavi

Belagavi: The last rites of Jain monk Acharya Kamkumar Nandi Maharaj of Nandi Parvat Ashram, who was brutally murdered on July 6, was performed at Nandi Parvat in Hirekudi, Belagavi district, on Sunday. His followers blocked the Pune-Bengaluru highway in protest | P7

### US to return 150 Indian artefacts, says official

Hampi: About 150 Indian artefacts would be returned by the US in six months. Addressing reporters ahead of the third G20 Culture Working Group meeting, Secretary in the Culture Ministry Govind Mohan said India has discussed the 1970 convention extensively among all countries.

## Govt will start thousand rural courts in Karnataka: HK Patil

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @ Gadag

MINISTER for Law and Parliamentary Affairs and Tourism HK Patil has said the state government is planning to start a thousand rural courts across Karnataka. These courts will help thousands of farmers and daily wagers as they need not travel miles to attend courts at taluk and district headquarters.

These courts are expected to reduce the rush at district session and taluk-level courts. The UPA government passed the Gram Nyayalaya Act in 2008 to make the judicial process participatory, inexpensive and accessible to rural India. In all, 250 rural courts were started in ten states during the UPA government.

Rural courts in Karnataka will work like Judicial First Class Magistrate courts. But some lawyers in Gadag opined that it is practically difficult to start such courts as there will be many barriers, including infrastructure at every village. Also, judges have to be appointed and lawyers have to travel to rural areas. All this will take a lot of time, they said. P7

**The initiative will be based on the Gram Nyayalaya Act 2008. We will also form some creative rules and rural courts will function like JMFC courts**

HK Patil, Law Minister

ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 10/07/2023 • Year: Shobhakruta • Ayana: Uttharayana • Ritu: Grishma • Masa: Ashada • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Ashtami 11.17 pm • Nakshatra: Revathi 11.58 pm • Moon in Mesha Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am • Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 21°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST: Passing showers. Overcast.
Sunrise 5.59 am | Sunset 6.50 pm | Moonrise 12.00 pm | Moonset 12.31 am

# STATE OF GARBAGE UNITS, INDIRA CANTEENS IRKS DKS

DyCM carries out surprise inspection; tells officials to fix city's waste woes, says canteen issues will be addressed

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, during an inspection of an Indira Canteen, interacts with a customer over breakfast, in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

DEPUTY Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, who on Sunday morning carried out surprise inspection of waste processing plants at Kannahalli, Seegehalli and Doddabidarakallu, remained dissatisfied with their functioning, since these units were not processing waste to their full capacity.

At the Kannahalli plant, Shivakumar, who is also the Bengaluru Development Minister, found that the facility which was supposed to derive energy out of waste was not doing so. On checking the register at the entrance of the unit, he found discrepancies with the number of garbage trucks that have entered the premises.

The Seegehalli plant, which has a capacity to process 120 metric tonnes of garbage, was non-functional and Shivakumar directed officials to get the unit started.

He found garbage dumped by the roadside near Seegehalli, and turned towards the BBMP officials, questioning, "Such illegal dumping is happening in a city like Bengaluru. Who should be held responsible for this?"

He said that day-by-day, the garbage generated by Bengaluru is increasing and measures will be taken to handle it scientifically. He directed the BBMP officials to come up with solutions to put an end to the waste management woes in Bengaluru. He said he will soon be inspecting landfills too.

### Unhappy with Indira Canteens

Shivakumar also inspected Indira Canteens in the city, where he found that the food that was supposed to be sold for Rs 5, was inflated to Rs 10. In one canteen, the food was over before 9 am and when Shivakumar inquired, the staff informed him that 208 plates had been sold. At T Dasarahalli ward's Indira Canteen, the DyCM ordered *khara bath* and *kesari bath* and had breakfast with other customers, and took their feedback.

The Deputy CM also noted that the helpline number to lodge complaints against the canteen was non-functional. He assured that steps will be taken to fix the issues related to Indira Canteens.

REVISED DPR

# Metro Phase-3 project cost reduced by nearly ₹300 crore

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION

THE Phase-3 of Bengaluru Metro is now pegged to cost Rs 16,041 crore, as per the revised Detailed Project Report (DPR) submitted to the Centre by the state government by June-end.

Consultancy firm Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited (RITES) has submitted the revised project to the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), bringing down the originally proposed cost by Rs 287 crore.

The project, sent by the state to the Centre in February this year, was supposed to be approved well before the Assembly elections, but that did not materialise.

With the Centre seeking multiple clarifications on the DPR submitted to it by the state and asking the cost to be revisited due to some technical specifications, RITES reworked on it for the last eight months and has come out with this revised version, said a Metro official. "There is no change in the route alignment. The escalation component usually calculated for the rolling stock (5% annually) has been removed as recommended by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)," the official said.

The state government had approved the project on November 18, 2022, at a cost of Rs 16,328 crore, with a 20% share each to be borne by the state and the Centre, and the remaining 60% to be mobilised through external borrowings. Both the governments had to pay Rs 2,526 crore each. "Due to the removal of the rolling stock escalation aspect, the Centre's cost will now have this significant reduction," he said.

As per the DPR, Phase-3 will run up to 44.65 km and comprise two elevated corridors with 31 Metro stations. Corridor One will run for 32.15 km along the west of Outer Ring Road from J P Nagar IVth phase to Kempapura with 22 stations. It will be connected with the Airport Line. Corridor Two will run from Hosahalli to Kadabgere on Magadi Road for 12.5 km and will have nine stations. There will be intersections with other Metro lines at five stations.

"BMRCL is examining the revised DPR. In all likelihood, it will be approved by us. It will be submitted to MoHUA next week," said a source.

The project will require 113 acres of land, of which 85% will be government land. It had a deadline of 2028. Traffic estimates said it would carry 9.12 lakh passengers daily by 2051.

# BDA wins case, to take over 26 guntas in BTM

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

AFTER a long court battle, BDA has finally won a verdict in its favour, to take over 26 guntas of land in BTM Layout 4th Stage that it had notified for acquisition 33 years ago. The present market value of the property is Rs 32 crore.

BDA Commissioner Kumar Naik said steps to acquire the property, located in Devarachikkanahalli, will be undertaken shortly. An official said the issue dates back to November 1990, when BDA acquired an acre and 12 guntas. However, two separate individuals staked claim to 26 guntas, and took the matter to the High Court, which stalled its acquisition.

One Krishna Reddy filed a writ petition in 2016, and the HC gave a verdict on August 5, 2019. "The court declared the land abandoned, and consequently lapsed. BDA was unable to furnish enough documents," the official said.

BDA filed a writ appeal in 2021 in the HC against the verdict, and offered documents. On September 9, 2022, the HC dismissed the appeal.

Meanwhile, another individual, Huchamma, filed a petition in September 2017 against the acquisition. The court gave a similar verdict. "In connection with the second case, BDA filed an appeal on November 11, 2019. However, the court said it had delayed filing its appeal by 743 days, and dismissed it," the official said.

BDA relentlessly pursued the matter and recently filed a submission before the High Court, with all documents. The court last week okayed the acquisition.

# With no rules, glass buildings continue to rise in city

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

IF you felt hot and sultry in July, which is supposed to be the peak monsoon season with cool winds, then look around and blame the tall glass structure for it.

With space constraints forcing the city to grow vertical, builders are aping the West and constructing glass-fronted high rises, rather than giving importance to eco-friendly structures. The deteriorating situation is because of a lack of mandate to regulate such constructions.

Experts from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc)-Bengaluru said that around 40-50 construction companies, both private and government, approach the institution annually, seeking an opinion on the safety of structure, but only 4-5 want to know how to make buildings eco-friendly.

Experts said the green rating given to builders is an incentive to reduce carbon emissions, but little is done. They said that in IISc, there is a unit to help in making eco-friendly bricks, but few citizens and builders approach them. "People think that environment friendly structures do not have the aesthetic value. But they don't realise that fancy structures come at a cost," an expert said.

Prof Chandra Kishen JM from the department of civil engineering, IISc, told TNIE that

there is also lack of awareness. The bricks designed by IISc use only 10-20% cement and are made from the soil at the construction site. Making it is time consuming, but effective. While ideally glass should be least used in constructions, double-glazed glass can be used, which will trap heat and not put pressure on the environment.

"The government should come up with a decision for environment-friendly and safe construction. People assume that low cost housing is not cool. They are aping other countries without understanding its repercussions," he said.

Experts said that when builders, individuals and even government agencies are violating building bylaws and mandated setbacks, there is little hope of the government stressing on eco- friendly constructions.

Officials from the state government, BBMP's town planning section and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board also admitted that there are no rules to ban glass buildings.

WHEEL THRILLS

A biking enthusiast tries a stunt at the 21st International Jawa Yezdi Day on St Joseph's Indian High School grounds, in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

# *Docs want ads promoting junk food to be regulated*

CHITHRA PRAKASH @ Bengaluru

TODAY'S children are bombarded with enticing advertisements promoting unhealthy foods that are high in saturated fatty acids, trans-fatty acids, free sugars, and/or salt (HFSS). Recently, the World Health Organisation (WHO) introduced guidelines to protect children from products that promote unhealthy food and non-alcoholic beverages. Accordingly, doctors in Bengaluru have also opined that such advertisements should be restricted during children's shows and should not include child actors for promotions.

Commercials strategically placed on social media, and even in schools, exert a powerful influence on children and significantly shape their dietary preferences. Basavaraja GV, president of the State Paediatric Association Karnataka, said, "In the last three years, children have become addicted to junk food and packaged food items, which give instant energy and cause obesity, leading to early metabolic syndrome." He added that cases of cholesterol, blood pressure and heart attacks have increased in children.

"Even after 10 years of WHO's recommendations, children continue to be exposed to powerful marketing of HFSS foods and non-alcoholic beverages, consumption of which is associated with negative health effects," the body's recent statement read.

Parents in the city want their children to eat healthy, however, advertisements on packed food such as chips, aerated drinks, and fried items encourage children to force their parents to buy these products.

"Whenever there is a particularly enticing advertisement about food, especially chocolates, chips, and milkshakes, my son's immediate response is I want to eat this now. He fixates on one item for weeks," said Pinky Jain, mother to an 8-year-old.

Experts say that the government needs to release strict guidelines for schools all over Karnataka to restrict junk food. Dr Shivaprakash Sosale, Assistant Professor, Paediatrics, Bangalore Medical College, said, " The school environment itself allows all kinds of junk and packaged food items that attract children. All fried foods like samosas and vadas can be avoided and healthier substitutes can be offered, however, very little action is taken in this issue."

### Ads focused on cash

Experts said that parents play a crucial role in purchasing these products and should not give into their children's demands. Shruthi V Shetty, Assistant Professor of Manipal Institute of Communication, said, "Expecting brands to do something would be too idealistic. They are here for business; therefore, they would focus on creating more profits. A proper platform for providing information could lead to a better understanding of the harmful effects of such products."

# Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

**10TH July: Many years ago, when I started studying the stars, we were pretty sure that we would soon be able to explain the way the universe works, down to the tiniest detail. I have to report that we are now further away than ever. In fact, we reckon that scientific laws can only explain five percent of the universe. The rest is a mystery!**

**ARIES** (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Prominent planetary patterns are likely to continue for a month at least, though the results should be to your liking. There is still at least another week to go before you can afford to relax. Even then you may have a number of vital questions to answer about your closest relationships - like whether you should really be so patient and understanding!

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Take a deep breath in anticipation of the exciting times to come. You will be able to confide in partners or close associates and try to make them realise why you feel as you do. For your part, you can surely understand just why they should now be anxious. Happily, the Moon's gracious presence in Taurus offers full celestial protection.

**GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21)
You're heading for prosperous stars. A tie-up between your second and sixth solar houses brings superb chances of an increase in your earnings, perhaps as a result of a long-held dream, or a vision of how you could help make the world a better place. You're also in a generous mood, so likely to end the week worse off!

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 23)
It may be time to leave professional matters alone except in as much as they are closely bound up with your personal feelings. Everything in your life centres around your management of emotional partnerships, so give total devotion to people who have earned your support. And never imagine that you can go it alone!

**LEO** (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Personal success is now assured, but you must be prepared to take other people's feelings, hopes and desires into account. Then you may find that the current period is one of great fulfilment in all intimate relationships. A secret is about to come into the open, so make sure you have your side of the story ready.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Your perspective at home could change around mid-week, when you will come to see the importance of adopting a clear long-term strategy, rather than being over-obsessed by trivial or unimportant details. At work, co-operation is vital, even if it means your taking second place for a couple of days.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
It is probably still too early to assess the state of play either at work or at home. I can only reassure you that, in the longer perspective, the potential of the current period is utterly remarkable. When Venus and Mars shift their positions next week, friends and colleagues should come to your aid in magnificent style.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
One planetary aspect is assuring you that all is well. Another is about to sweep the carpet from under your feet. Your advice for the week is to remain on the offensive but to remember that magnanimity in victory is a great virtue. Keep an eye on travel plans, otherwise there's an outside chance you'll get lost!

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
There's been an excess of emotion, even of deception lately. It may be just as well that others have shown themselves in their true colours, and that you know the truth. Hopefully, you were alerted with enough time to sever any dubious or potentially disastrous financial involvements.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Astrological predictions may be the last thing you need right now. However, it may offer you a sense of the larger scheme of things to understand that you are currently in the middle of a planetary battle royal. It should also help to know that, by next week, the storm clouds will have passed by.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Perhaps you should be thankful that so much has been, or is about to be, forced into the open. This is more than you could normally expect at such a time. All will be revealed when important planets align themselves with your house of partnerships next week.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
With Neptune, your graceful planetary ruler, placed in such a splendid, if mysterious location, you are bound to feel exhilarated by the sense that there is so much untapped potential. You may take your energies into a number of areas, either social and romantic, or creative and artistic. The final choice of expression is yours.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

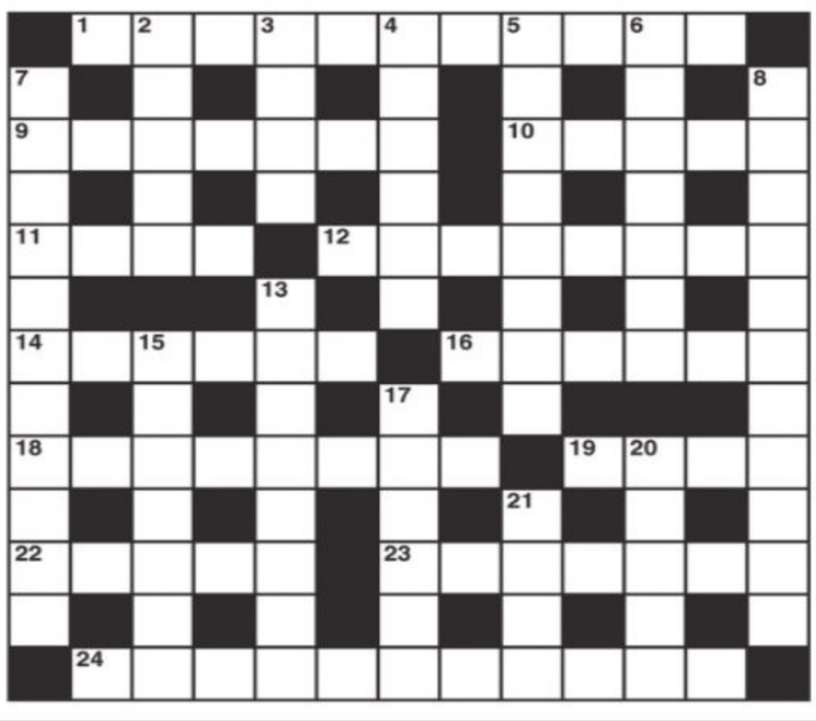
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 | | | | | 5 | | |
| | 9 | | 3 | 5 | | | 4 | 8 |
| 4 | 5 | | | | 2 | 7 | | 1 |
| | | 9 | 5 | | | | | |
| | 1 | | 2 | 9 | 3 | | 7 | |
| | | | | | 8 | 2 | | |
| 5 | | 3 | 4 | | | | 8 | 7 |
| 1 | 2 | | | 7 | 5 | | 6 | |
| | | 8 | | | | | 5 | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 9 |
| 1 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 6 |
| 3 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 8 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 8 |
| 2 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 7 |
| 5 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| 9 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 5 |
| 7 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 1 |

## SUDOKU EASY

**TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE**

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



## CROSS WORD

**ACROSS**
1 Second prize for Mr Dave Ellis in the medley (6,5)
9 Called for as arranged (7)
10 To return to her is not the same (5)
11 A job is at stake (4)
12 A product of good stock (8)
14 Kingdoms about to be given charity (6)
16 Stones cast in attacks (6)
18 It rarely turns out like this in books (8)
19 The picture palace features it (4)
22 Temporarily secures an obligation we hear (5)
23 Bound to be against punishment (7)
24 On which games are won by the over-forties (6,5)

**DOWN**
2 Pakistan's greatest current asset (5)
3 Girl getting rave review (4)
4 Tree used in sacred fires (3,3)
5 Time soon modifies feelings (8)
6 Perform successfully (7)
7 Sort of writing that may be highly polished (11)
8 Detects rare form of confidential process (5,6)
13 Give one time for transgression (8)
15 What one may write about a recital (7)
17 Summary of new prices (6)
20 Former churchman? (5)
21 Ruin a French party (4)

**SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS**

**Across:** 1 Titled, 4 Asserted, 9 Leader, 10 Alacrity, 12 Rash, 13 False, 14 Flue, 17 Typist's error, 20 Drinking song, 23 Gate, 24 Afoot, 25 Yeti, 28 Esurient, 29 Demise, 30 Destroys, 31 Impels.

**Down:** 1 Tolerate, 2 Transept, 3 Even, 5 Sole survivor, 6 Each, 7 Trifle, 8 Day bed, 11 Passing fancy, 15 Tsars, 16 Forge, 18 Nosedive, 19 Ugliness, 21 Agreed, 22 Struts, 26 Liar, 27 Seem.

## JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

GDWEE

CCHUO

BTIAGM

ROIDON

I wanted to show you that I'm shipping the first copy to you. Be sure to answer your doorbell.
I will check my porch hourly.
5/12
THE COPY OF THE NOVEL THE PUBLISHER WAS SENDING TO THE AUTHOR WAS ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: SKIER USURP COFFEE EITHER
Answer: The landfill couldn't accept that type of waste and had to — REFUSE THE REFUSE

©2023 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

05 BENGALURU MONDAY 10.07.2023 newindianexpress.com

The previous BJP government which claimed of reserving Rs 5,000 crore to give compensation to farmers who lost lands for the Upper Krishna Project(UKP)-3, did not pay single rupee to them, Large and Medium Industries Minister MB Patil said

# 2 NEW CONTRACEPTIVE METHODS FOR WOMEN IN THE PIPELINE

## Sub-dermal implant and subcutaneous injection will be started in government-run health centres in Bidar, B'luru, Mysuru and Yadgir as pilot project

NAMRATA SINDWANI @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Health Department has decided to add two new contraceptive methods for women under the National Family Planning Programme ahead of World Population Day celebrated on July 11.

Dr Chandrika BR, State Deputy Director (Family Planning), told *TNIE* that four districts from Karnataka have been selected under a pilot initiative for this purpose. The two new contraceptive methods — sub-dermal implant and subcutaneous injection — will be implemented in the government-run health centres with the aim of not controlling population but increasing the gap between the births of two children. "Appropriate gap allows both men and women to lead a more healthy reproductive and sexual life," she elaborated.

Bidar, Bengaluru Urban, including BBMP, Mysuru and Yadgir are the four districts

where the pilot project is expected to start from August. Other contraceptive methods available free of cost in Karnataka are condoms, mala-n and chhaya tablets, copper intrauterine device (IUD) and permanent sterilisations.

Most methods continue to be women-centric as the responsibility of undergoing the sterilisation process continues to fall upon them. In 2022-23, only 1,000 men in Karnataka underwent the sterilisation process in comparison to 2.5 lakh women, data from the state health department showed.

Dr Chandrika further elaborated that the government is taking measures to train doctors and creating awareness on performing male sterilisation surgeries at the public health centre level too to improve incidence among men.

Health and Family Welfare Commissioner D Randeep said that expansion of contraceptive choices under the National Family Planning Programme is the key priority for strengthening the family planning initiative in India.

The country has made significant progress but there is still a need to ensure healthy spacing between births. Randeep added that it is crucial to address the unmet needs for contraception in the postpartum period while reducing method specific discontinuation and improving user satisfaction.

The Health Ministry has selected Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Assam, West Bengal, Delhi along with Karnataka to roll out the pilot project.

**It will be implemented in the government-run health centres with the aim of not controlling population but increasing the gap between the births of two children**

Dr Chandrika BR, State Deputy Director (Family Planning)

# Victoria Hospital sees dip in sex reassignment surgeries post-Covid

NAMRATA SINDWANI @Bengaluru

VICTORIA Hospital, the only government-run hospital to perform sex reassignment surgeries, has seen a massive drop with only two to three procedures performed annually post-Covid. Dr Ramesh TK, professor and head of department (plastic surgery), Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI), Victoria Hospital, told *TNIE*, "Previously around 100 sex reassignment surgeries would be performed in our department, most of them being male to female transformations. However, in the post-pandemic years we have only performed 2-3 surgeries annually."

The decline cannot be attributed to a particular reason, he said. Prior to the pandemic, many NGOs and social organisations would guide people wishing to undergo the surgery and people would turn up in large numbers seeking consultations on the procedures. But post-pandemic, those numbers have seen a significant decline.

Members of the LGBTQIA+ community too showed apprehension in availing health services in public institutions due to continued queerphobic discrimination. A transgender woman, seeking anonymity, said, "The doctors in government hospitals do not treat us properly. We do not feel accepted. Many of them do not even have the skills to be guiding us for treatments like breast augmentation or other sex reassignment-related procedures like hysterectomy, orchiectomy. Most government hospitals do not have the procedures available in the private sector. So, we end up paying huge sums of money to avail treatment in private hospitals."

Speaking from personal experience, the transgender woman said, "I have undergone breast enhancement surgery and consume hormone pills regularly which causes a lot of effects on my body. Often doctors in a government setup did not have knowledge of such issues. I would end up consulting private medical practitioners."

Recently, in an exclusive health camp organised for the community, Dr Indira C Reddy, secretary, Bangalore Society of Obstetrician and Gynaecology, examined a trans person, who was seeing a doctor for the first time in 40 years.

Dr Reddy explained that members of the community suffer from multiple health issues, but refrain from going to hospitals due to continued stigma associated with them. There is a dire need to sensitise healthcare professionals to not treat them differently and ensure an inclusive environment for them.

**Previously around 100 sex reassignment surgeries were performed in our department. However, in the post-pandemic years we have only performed 2-3 surgeries annually**

Dr Ramesh TK, professor and head of department (plastic surgery), BMCRI

**FLYING HIGH...**

A girl flies a kite at the Kite Festival organised by Veerashaiva Sajjana Sangha in Mysuru on Sunday | UDAYASHANKAR S

# Anganwadi workers to protest today over 'poor quality' mobile phones

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

ANGANWADI workers, following several demands, will sit in protest on Monday, due to the alleged poor quality of phones provided to them.

Under the aegis of the Karnataka State Anganwadi Workers' Association (KSAWA), the workers have been appealing for better infrastructure to conduct surveys, including mobile phones.

Four years ago, the government had distributed over 64,000 mobile phones to them to fulfil various duties, including submitting reports and carrying out surveys in their respective districts. However, the workers had repeatedly stated that the phones were outdated and dysfunctional, proving to be a hindrance in carrying out their duties efficiently.

The issue had particularly come to a head following the announcement of the Gruha Lakshmi scheme, where women heads of families will be deposited with Rs 2,000 every month. In this regard, the workers were to be deployed to carry out surveys and collect data on the potential beneficiaries. However, stating that the phones issued to them are incapable of handling surveys, as well as preventing them from downloading additional applications needed to carry out their duties and low allowances for the maintenance of the phones, the workers have been demanding a resolution.

However, citing that there has been no response from the government on the issue, all anganwadi workers have unanimously decided to formally return their mobile phones in mass protest on Monday.

S Varalakshmi, KSAWA head, has also warned that the failure to address the issues would also lead to the inability for the government to undertake any kind of surveys effectively due to a lack of proper infrastructure.

# Two robbed giving lift on NICE Road

PRAVEEN KUMAR @ Bengaluru

TWO motorists were robbed by strangers in two separate incidents on NICE Road on the pretext of hitching a ride. The incidents occurred within 40 minutes near Beguru-Koppa cross bridge close to Doddakammanahalli lake in Hulimavu. Both the victims were on two-wheelers.

One of the victims, C Ilavarasan (37), a resident of BK Circle on BG Road, was returning from work when he was stopped by two men asking for lift on his two-wheeler around 9.50 pm. As he stopped his bike, the accused robbed his mobile phone and demanded money. Ilavarasan started screaming for help and ran along the road leaving his bike behind, with the miscreants in hot pursuit. After running for some distance, he got a lift from a biker and on reaching Tumakuru Road toll he called 112 to inform them about the robbery. He then returned to the spot and found his two-wheeler.

The incident happened on June 30 and the complaint was filed the next day.

In another incident, 35-year-old Keval Ram, a resident of Uday Layout in Manganahalli, was robbed at the same spot around 9.10 pm. The victim after work was going towards the Mysore Road side from Hosur Road when he was targeted. On the same pretext of asking for lift, they robbed Ram of his mobile phone worth Rs 15,000.

Based on the complaints from Ilavarasan and Ram, the Hulimavu police have registered two separate cases of robbery.

"The accused did not attack ither of the victims. They must have entered NICE Road from an opening near the bridge at Beguru Koppa," said an investigating officer.

CRIME PATROL

### Man murdered by friend in Malleswaram

BENGALURU: An unidentified man was murdered in Link Road under Malleswaram police station limits, on Saturday night. The identity of the deceased, who is aged around 35, is yet to be established. The police said a preliminary probe has revealed that both the victim and accused, who were rag pickers, were friends and slept by the roadside in Malleswaram. "Both were under the influence of alcohol on Saturday night and there was a fight between them over an issue following which the accused clubbed the victim to death using a wooden stick. An auto driver, who saw them fight, tried to pacify them but the accused threatened him with the stick. The accused is absconding," the police said. Malleswaram police have registered a case of murder. ENS

# Not a smooth ride: 490 cases booked for violations on Mysuru expressway

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE police have registered 490 cases on vehicles plying on the new Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway for over-speeding and not following lane discipline. The Ramanagara police, who are spearheading the drive to catch traffic violators on the expressway with an intention to bring down the number of accidents, have booked 174 cases for over-speeding using speed radar guns. The speed-limit for vehicles on the expressway is 100 kmph.

The police have booked 137 violators for not following lane discipline, 47 for not wearing helmets and 81 for not wearing seat belts. The police have registered 51 cases for other violations.

Ramanagara Superintendent of Police Karthik Reddy took to Twitter to announce that the drive to catch the violators on the expressway that started on July 4 will continue every day.

Meanwhile, cops attached to Mandya and Mysuru districts are also expected to start registering cases against the offenders.

They are also planning to catch those who drink and drive in the coming days.

The Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway was open for traffic last October. It has so far witnessed 296 accidents since January with 132 being fatal.

490 Total cases since July 4

137 for not following lane discipline

47 for not wearing helmets

81 for not wearing seat belts

51 other violations

# Trying to escape accident, man jumps off bike, dies

ENS @ Bengaluru

A 29-year-old man, who was riding pillion with his brother-in-law, was killed while the rider sustained injuries after their bike crashed into the safety wall of a flyover and the pillion fell about 10 feet down from the flyover.

The deceased has been identified as Ramkumar, a resident of Pramod Nagar near Byatarayanapura. A B.Tech graduate, he hailed from Tamil Nadu and was into share market trading. His brother-in-law Yashwant sustained fracture. Ramkumar was married to Yashwant's sister about a year ago. The police said the duo along with other friends were going to JP Nagar on two-wheelers to have coffee. At 12.30 am on Sunday, they were passing on the Chennamma Circle flyover and Yashwant, who was allegedly speeding the vehicle, lost control and hit the safety wall of the down ramp. Ramkumar, who tried to escape getting hurt, jumped from the bike and fell from a height of about 10 feet off the flyover. He sustained fatal head injuries while the rider sustained a fracture in the hand.

"Both were rushed to a hospital where Ramkumar died. It was found that he was wearing a half-helmet. A case is registered against Yashwant and further investigations are on," the Banashankari traffic police said.

FROM RAIPUR

# *Infant suffering from severe health condition airlifted to city*

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A six-month-old child from Raipur in Chhattisgarh was airlifted to a hospital in Bengaluru on July 2 after being diagnosed with Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS), a severe medical condition characterised by high blood pressure and kidney failure.

The baby, who was travelling to Raipur with family from Canada, started experiencing diarrhoea which rapidly escalated to worsening kidney functions. Doctors at Rainbow Children's Hospital, Marathahalli, responded to the situation and the baby was airlifted to Bengaluru last week. They observed that the baby needed specialised medical interventions such as hemodialysis and plasma exchange therapy.

"Transporting an unstable infant with rapidly fluctuating blood pressure and compromised breathing due to excessive fluid in the body is difficult even by road. Air travel introduces different challenges as changes in ambient pressures can lead to rapid deterioration of health in case of a critically ill infant," Dr Deepak Ramesh, consultant-paediatric, ICU, Rainbow Children's Hospital explained.

Due to limited connectivity to Raipur, doctors prepared everything a day in advance. Packing delicate equipment such as ventilators, ultrasound machines, monitors along with all the medications was done ensuring compatibility of all equipment and connections for use inside the aircraft, and be prepared for an early morning take-off the next day. The return journey was smooth and the baby continues to be in the paediatric ICU at the hospital receiving appropriate care.

Doctors explained that HUS is a condition in which patients experience progressive kidney failure, along with symptoms such as blood-stained urine, body swelling due to fluid accumulation, high blood pressure, breathing difficulties, seizures, and a sudden drop in haemoglobin and platelet levels. When these symptoms occur together, they can lead to various complications and become life-threatening within a short period unless immediate medical attention is sought.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

**INVITATION FOR TENDER**
(Through KPP portal only)

**BWSSB invites Tenders from eligible contractors for the following work**

Office of the Chief Engineer (D&QA), 9th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-09.

| Division | IFT Number | Amount Put to Tender / EMD Amount | Last date & Time for submission of tender | Date & Time for opening of tender |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Quality Assurance | BWSSB/EQATE/PB/292/2023-24 Dt: 04/07/2023 | Rs.23,33,983/- / Rs.46,680/- | 17-07-2023 upto 5.30 p.m. | 19-07-2023 at 12.00 Noon |

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

**Sd/-**
**Executive Engineer (Quality Assurance)**

DIPR/CP/AAPL/RO477/22-23

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAKSHADWEEP ADMINISTRATION
(DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES)
KAVARATTI-682 555

F.No.42-45/2021–DHS (PART-1) Dated: 06.07.2023

**NOTICE INVITING RE- E-TENDER**

Department of Health Services UT of Lakshadweep Administration, Kavaratti invites competitive Re-e-Tender from the Original Licensed Manufacturers or their Authorized Distributors / Agents for the following work as detailed below.

| Name of Work | Supply and installation of Immune Analyzer for thyroid Hormones & other hormones and markers with Ichamber (Appendix A) | |
|---|---|---|
| Tender Fee / Cost of Tender Form | 1000 /- | |
| Bid Document available for downloading from | 10.07.2023 | 10.30 AM |
| Bid Document available for downloading up to | 31.07.2023 | 03.00 PM |
| Last date & Time for submission of Bid | 31.07.2023 | 03.00 PM |
| Opening of Technical Bid | 31.07.2023 | 04.30 PM |
| Opening of Financial Bid | 07.08.2023 | 05.00 PM |

Tender Document containing detailed terms & conditions and goods required can be downloaded from the website **www.lakshadweep.gov.in** Bidders willing to participate in the tender shall visit the e-tender website **www.tendersutl.gov.in** for participation

For any help / query, please contact representative of the Department through email **(bufferhealthdhs@gmail.com or Telephone (04896262819)** and for any help in processing of e-tender please contact E-Tender helpdesk Shri. Sakeer Hussain mobile No. 9447510207.

**Sd/- ( Dr.Shrikant R.Tapdiya (DANICS)**
**Director Health Services**
**U.T of Lakshadweep**

Various religious, political and social leaders of the Veerashaiva Lingayat community on Sunday put pressure on the Union Government to include all the castes and sub-castes of the community in the Central OBC (Other Backward Class) list. They held a convention in Kalaburagi

# WOE OVER TOMATO, CHILLI HITTING TONS

## Household budgets, biz in distress as prices soar; deficit rain, low produce key factors

BIG PICTURE

PURAN CHOUDHARY @Bengaluru

IN some kitchens in homes and restaurants, tomatoes are no longer found in salads. The juicy, red vegetable is being replaced by tamarind or tomato puree. It has fallen off the McDonald menu, and tomato chaat has disappeared from streetside stalls. At Rs 120 per kg (as of July 9), this staple ingredient is sparingly found in Indian curries. Since June, the prices of tomatoes, chillies, carrots, beans, garlic and ginger have been on the rise, but the real impact can be felt now. All vegetables have undergone cost inflation of 40-60 per cent in July, and consumers said their kitchen budgets have shot up from around Rs 1,500 in June to Rs 2,000 in July. With the price of essential ingredients skyrocketing, many households are now forced to shell out more to buy basic vegetables, and also look for alternatives.

### Essentials, expensive affair

Horticultural Producers' Cooperative Marketing and Processing Society (Hopcoms) in Bengaluru on Friday reported that the price of tomatoes was fixed at Rs 120 per kg, and cherry tomatoes at Rs 160 per kg. In retail markets, varieties such as nati tomato (Rs 130 per kg), hybrid tomato (Rs 134 per kg) and organically grown tomato (Rs 212 per kg) are making consumers wary of the vegetable.

In Hassan, tomatoes are sold in the retail market at Rs 160 per kg, which were priced at Rs 50 per kg at this time in 2022; a huge jump of 220 per cent. In Dharwad, tomatoes are retailing at Rs 120 to Rs 140 per kg, depending on the different varieties, like hybrid and organic. In Mysuru, wholesale rate of tomatoes is Rs 80 per kg and retail price has crossed Rs 100. In Shivamogga, the retail price is Rs 100-120 per kg.

Hopcoms MD Mirji Umesh Shankar told TNIE, "Prices are high all over Karnataka. We have stopped receiving tomato produce from Nashik in Maharashtra, which has further hiked prices, and the rain deficit in Karnataka and all over the country is impacting prices." Prices may not come down for a couple of weeks, and will burden consumers, he added.

Kolar, Asia's second-largest tomato market that supplies to the entire country, does not paint a good picture of the current situation. Farmers and traders say that prices will go through the roof in the coming weeks.

According to Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Secretary Vijayalakshmi, the reason behind the price rise is low produce. "Earlier, 4-5 lakh crates weighing 15kg each arrived in the market daily. However, currently, only 70,000 to 80,000 boxes of tomatoes are arriving at the market in Kolar. This has caused a spike in price. Initially, each crate was selling at Rs 650 but as of Sunday, a few boxes of good quality products were sold at Rs 1,800 for 15kg," she said.

It was a similar situation in Mysuru, another big producer of tomatoes. Horticulture Deputy Director K Rudresh, Mysuru, said there has been no big fluctuation in prices of chilli, ginger and onion, but tomato prices have increased due to a shortfall in cultivation. "Tomatoes were planted in March, but as temperatures increased, only 60 per cent of the crop survived." He explained that a delay in the arrival of the monsoon led to 40 per cent lower harvest this season.

"The APMC yard, which used to get 15,000 crates of tomatoes per day, is getting only 5,000 crates, while consumption remains the same," Rudresh said, adding that sowing was completed after the onset of the monsoon, and "the situation should normalise in 15 days, post-harvest".

### Negative factors

Farmers from Kolar complained that for them, the price hike is a "no loss, no gain" affair. The yield is affected because of the whitefly virus, which is an ongoing problem in many parts of the country. According to Sudarshan, a farmer in Srinivasapura, Kolar, tomato growers are unable to find a solution for the virus, which is destroying crops, and the yield has fallen to 10 to 15% of good crop, while the rest is damaged. Despite soaring prices, farmers are not earning profits as they are only able to transport a fraction of the crop, at the usual cost. Also, drought in some regions and heavy rainfall in others is destroying the quality of vegetables.

Kalaburagi-based merchant Usmansab said, "Deficit rainfall in Kalaburagi district and heavy rain in Maharashtra, from where tomatoes arrive, are the major reasons for a hike in the price of tomatoes and green chilli." Many customers have stopped buying these vegetables, he said.

Satish Patil, wholesaler, APMC, Belagavi, said cyclones in North India led to fluctuating rates. He recalled that two months ago, tomatoes had fallen to Rs 2 per kg which had discouraged local farmers from cultivating the crop, leading to a dearth in quantity.

In Hassan, wholesalers hiking prices without any profits reaching the farmers, also came to light. In Shivamogga, most vegetables are purchased from other states and sold in local markets. Vegetable merchants said low rainfall has pushed up prices. During this period, onions and potatoes came from Pune and Satara in Maharashtra, and Indore in Madhya Pradesh.

The rainfall deficit has also reduced the quality of potatoes and onions. "The delay in rain has pushed the arrival of onions to November. The quantity of onions and potatoes coming to the Shivamogga market from other states has come down significantly," said Ramu, a wholesale distributor in Shivamogga APMC. Vendors and the public are in a state of worry, as ginger prices are sizzling across the country. In Karnataka, the ingredient is being purchased at Rs 400 per kg, affecting not just households but burning a hole in small eatery owners' pockets as well. In Bengaluru, ginger is marketed at Rs 358 per kg in Hopcoms, with a slight fluctuation in retail markets. The root vegetable has been selling at Rs 280 per kg in some districts. Garlic is witnessing a steep price rise. Hopcoms listed the price at Rs 192 per kg and cleaned garlic at 208 per kg.

In Hassan, chillies are selling at Rs 130 per kg, whereas during the same period last year, they were sold at a retail price of Rs 30 per kg. In Bengaluru, green chillies are priced at Rs 132 per kg and retail prices vary between Rs150 and Rs 200 per kg. Many online grocery portals have starting putting up 'no stock' sign.

In Dharwad, prices are comparatively low -- chillies are priced at Rs 40 to 60 per kg in retail, and Rs 30 to 45 per kg. For Mysuru, chillies cost Rs 80 per kg in wholesale and Rs 100 in retail.

Paramesh, a wholesaler in Hassan said that the quality of vegetables has also been dwindling due to dry spells and the increased impact of climate change on green vegetables.

"The price of basic vegetables such as brinjal, cabbage, carrot, radish and drumstick remained the same in wholesale and retail markets. However, prices may increase in the coming days as sowing area has decreased in the district," he added.

In Dharwad, the state of onions is also worrisome. They are being purchased from neighbouring districts and even Maharashtra at almost a 40 per cent higher rate, while onions grown here are being sent to other states. Very soon, this staple vegetable will become an expensive affair.

Jeevan Kulal, proprietor of JJ Vegetables and Fruits, Manipal, said there are no local vegetable varieties these days, so people depend on vegetables brought from Chikkamagaluru, Hassan, Bengaluru and Belagavi. Some quantity of the local GI-tagged Mattu Gulla is available, and priced at Rs 180 per kg. He added that vegetable prices may come down after two months, when the rain recedes.

Usually, in the last week of September and early October, locally grown onions from Hosadurga, Hiriyur and other places in Chitradurga and Gadag districts start arriving, however, delayed rainfall might further push it by a month.

However, the situation in Kalaburagi seems different. Veerabhadrappa, a vegetable vendor, said, "Onions have become cheaper and are being sold at Rs 100 for 5kgs." Sources in Hassan alleged that there are no fresh vegetables available at Hopcoms, and in Dharwad, the quality of green leafy vegetables is affected as retail prices double. A resident of Banashankari in Bengaluru, Roopa Dhruvaraj shared the difference in her ration and grocery bills – Rs 4,496 in June, and Rs 6,022 for the same items in July.

Dhurvaraj said that despite the hike in almost all essentials, she cannot avoid the expenses. "Tomatoes are selling at Rs 150 per kg, which was earlier Rs 40, dosa rice costs Rs 42 per kg. How are we meant to manage the household?" she said, and added that since these are essentials, no alternatives can be used. Vinuta, a homemaker in Kalaburagi, has stopped buying tomatoes and chillies which are selling at Rs 100 per kg. Another citizen in Bengaluru said she has to calculate the expense before making certain delicacies. "Homemakers set aside a specific budget for monthly groceries, and it is hard for them to manage at such exorbitant prices. Health takes a backseat as nutritional value decreases," said Mahalakshmi B.

### Impact on restaurants

While price fluctuations are making new records every day, small eateries, tiffin service centres and restaurants are bearing the brunt. As their menus are set and prices cannot be changed weekly, profits have reduced considerably.

Gurdeep Singh, who runs a tiffin service called Peppy Punjabi, which caters to around 400 people in east Bengaluru, said business has been hit hard. "We cannot compromise on the quality of food, so we are purchasing only hybrid tomatoes. We are taking a cut on what we earn and almost serving food for free, because not just vegetables, pulses, spices and flour are also costlier." Currently, budgets have increased by 35 per cent, leaving very little margin.

Bruhat Bangalore Hotels Association (BBHA), which has 24,500 hotels under its umbrella, said retail and bulk rates are nearly the same now. In fact, good quality tomatoes cost more in wholesale markets. PC Rao, president of BBHA said, "Restaurants have no option but to start using alternatives such as tomato puree. Currently, they are relying on 75 per cent puree and 25 per cent fresh tomatoes."

*(Inputs by Ramkrishna Badseshi, Udaya Kumar, BK Lakshmikanta, Ramachandra Gunari, Prakash Samaga, Mallikarjun Hiremth, Tushar Majukar and V Velayudham)*

### Rate Card in Karnataka

**TOMATOES**
- **Bengaluru** ₹120/kg
- **Hassan** ₹160 /kg
- **Dharwad** ₹120-140 /kg
- **Mysuru** ₹100 /kg
- **Shivamogga** ₹100-120/kg

**CHILLIES**
- **Bengaluru** ₹132/kg
- **Hopcoms** ₹210/kg
- **Hassan** ₹130/kg
- **Dharwad** ₹40 to 60/kg
- **Mysuru** ₹100/kg

**GINGER**
- **Bengaluru** ₹358/kg
- **Other dists:** ₹280 - 310 /kg

**GARLIC**
Hopcoms, Bengaluru
- **Normal garlic:** ₹192/kg
- **Cleaned garlic:** ₹208/kg

P.JC. SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

# Like Siddu, DKS too wants office next to Assembly chamber

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

DK Shivakumar, Deputy CM

DEPUTY Chief Minister DK Shivakumar is all set to have an office parallel to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's, just outside the Legislative Assembly Chamber at Vidhana Soudha.

Shivakumar's new office will be on the first floor of the west side of Vidhana Soudha gate, from where all legislators, the chief minister and his cabinet colleagues enter the House. In fact, both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar have their offices on the third floor. While the CM's is on the west, facing former chief minister Kengal Hanumanthaiah's statue, the DyCM's is on the east that faces the Karnataka High Court.

For decades, chief ministers have had the privilege of occupying an additional office on the first floor outside the Assembly chamber so that they can make themselves comfortable, attend to bureaucrats and MLAs, especially during assembly sessions. But no deputy chief ministers in the past had their office just outside the Assembly chamber. This time, however, Shivakumar is insisting that he too have an office there so that he can attend to his bureaucrats and MLAs, sources told *The New Indian Express*.

"Shivakumar has asked officials to furnish the room on the left corner of the Assembly chamber, which is now occupied by an undersecretary-level officer," they added.

G20 delegates pose for the shutterbugs at JSW Airport near Hampi on Sunday

# Govt to bring back 150 Indian artefacts from US in next 6 months

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @ Hampi

**Cultural Property Agreement being negotiated between India and the US will enable the US authorities to intercept smuggled goods and artefacts and return them to Indian expeditiously**

Govind Mohan, Secretary in the Ministry of Culture

THE Third G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) meeting began in Hampi on Sunday. The meeting that began on Sunday will go on till July 12.

Speaking to reporters ahead of the meeting, Secretary in the the Ministry of Culture Govind Mohan said about 150 Indian artefacts are expected to return from the US in the next three to six months.

The senior official said that the Cultural Property Agreement being negotiated between India and the US will enable the US authorities to intercept smuggled goods and artefacts and return them to Indian expeditiously.

"The joint statement of the Prime Minister during his recent visit to the U.S. mentions the Cultural Property Agreement between the two countries," he said.

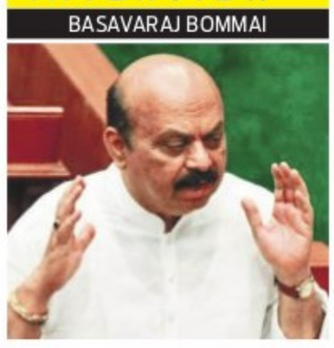
He said the first two CWG meetings were held in Khajuraho and Bhubaneswar. In the third meeting in Hampi, as many as 50 delegates from G20 member nations, guest countries and several multilateral organisations, will be present.

"The Hampi meeting will try to achieve a consensus on the best practices shared pertaining to 4 main priority areas that have been outlined as part of the Culture Track during India's G20 Presidency. The 4 priority areas are: Protection and Restitution of Cultural Property; Harnessing Living Heritage for a Sustainable Future; Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries and Creative Economy; and Leveraging Digital Technologies for the Protection and Promotion of Culture," he added.

# HEADLESS, BUT WILL RETAIN 25 LOK SABHA SEATS, SAYS BOMMAI

INTERVIEW

BASAVARAJ BOMMAI



THE BJP taunted the Congress when it took six days to elect a CM, now the Congress is throwing barbs, with the post of Opposition leader lying vacant for almost two months. The budget presentation is complete, but the LoP is nowhere in sight. Former chief minister Basavaraj Bommai speaks exclusively to Bansy Kalappa on this and other important issues.

**It is about two months and the party has still not elected an opposition leader. Will it not damage the morale of the party? At this rate, can you retain the 25 Lok Sabha seats, with elections just eight months away?**

There is a huge difference between Lok Sabha and Vidhana Sabha elections. Former CM Ramakrishna Hegde lost the Lok Sabha election but won assembly polls. In 2018, we couldn't form the government in Karnataka but went on to win 25 Lok Sabha seats. Security, defence, development will be crucial issues, and we are confident of retaining the 25 seats. My guess is they are deciding on the party president and opposition leader at the same time, which is taking time.

**What message will it send to party workers and grassroots if you don't elect an opposition leader?**

We formed six teams and went around the state, and held meetings of election winners and losers to discuss the cause of defeat threadbare. Our workers want to bring the party back to power with a vengeance, they want to tell people not to be deceived by these guarantees. The Siddaramaiah government has failed to keep its promises, people are not too happy.

**Some days ago, two observers came here and returned because the problem of leadership was not sorted out, now they say that three more observers are coming. If the government had come to power, would it have been able to choose a chief minister?**

If it was our government, we wouldn't have taken so long. The change from B S Yediyurappa to me took just 24 hours. I am confident it will not take much time.

**Your party leaders allege that Bommai was doing adjustment politics...**

I have never done it and I don't require to do it.

**The names of Shobha Karandlaje, Dr CN Ashwath Narayan are doing the rounds for party president, and Arvind Bellad, Basanagouda Yatnal, Sunil Kumar and your own for LOP.**

We told our observers we are united, so whatever decision the central party leadership takes, we accept and work together.

**JDS appears to be openly supporting BJP; will there be a tie-up?**

A The political mood across the country is to support the Narendra Modi leadership and defeat the design of opposition parties who are trying to unite only for political gains. Many local, regional and sub-regional parties are moving towards the NDA.

**Can you specify?**

In Andhra, talks are on with Telugu Desam Party leader Chandrababu Naidu, in Bihar there is going to be a realignment, in Maharashtra, a group of NCP MLAs has come back. Ultimately, it depends on talks between PM Modi and former Prime Minister and JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda.

**JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy has been receiving BJP's support on social media for some days...**

There are certain reasons, and there is a common cause too. We stood together in the House because this government immediately started corruption, and cash for transfers.

**In BJP, BS Yediyurappa, B Sriramulu, Jagadish Shettar, CT Ravi are not elected members, yet there are so many differences and infighting...**

There is no difference. As a national party, BJP is trying to set the whole thing for Lok Sabha. This has nothing to do with personalities.

As many as 15 Indian fishermen from Rameswaram, in Tamil Nadu district, including a 17-year-old boy, have been arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy for allegedly violating the International Maritime Boundary Line and fishing in the island nation's waters off Delft Island, Jaffna. Along with the fishermen, two boats were seized, which were handed over to Mailadi fisheries inspector for further action

METROMAN

## Sreedharan to be the 'SilverLining'

RAJESH ABRAHAM @ Kochi

IN a master stroke, the LDF government has brought Metro Man E Sreedharan on board the SilverLine project, stalled midway through the land survey following public protests.

The government has sought suggestions of Sreedharan on the semi-high speed rail corridor project, which has been stuck for nearly a year. Sreedharan will submit a note on a reworked project plan to the state government on Monday.

The development follows a two-hour-long meeting between Prof K V Thomas, the Kerala government's special representative in Delhi, and A K Vijayakumar, who is in charge of liaison work for K-Rail in the national capital, and Sreedharan at the latter's residence in Ponnani on Sunday.

"Prof Thomas wanted a note from my side, which I will submit to him tomorrow (Monday)," Sreedharan told *TNIE*.

By roping in Sreedharan, the country's premier railway architect, the state government expects to win the trust and confidence of the people in the project.

Sreedharan said the existing SilverLine project, which proposed the construction of a 529.45km-long semi-high-speed rail corridor from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasaragod, needs a complete overhaul. Under the new plan, the entire SilverLine stretch would be either elevated or underground.

"The existing SilverLine project is not acceptable. This will not get the Railway Board's approval. It won't get the foreign funding either," he said, but added that Kerala requires a semi-high-speed railway for its progress.

# Guv is a threat to TN, says Stalin in letter to Prez

Ravi instigates communal hatred, ineligible to hold the office of Governor: TN CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

CHIEF Minister MK Stalin on Sunday penned a detailed letter to the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, expressing that Governor R N Ravi "instigates communal hatred" and he is a "threat" to Tamil Nadu's peace.

According to the press statement of the government, the CM said that Governor RN Ravi had violated the oath of office he took under Article 159 of the Constitution. "Through his behaviour and action, the Governor has proved to be partial and ineligible to hold the office of Governor. Ravi is fit to be removed from the high office," the CM emphasized in his letter. Drawing a comparison between the actions of Governor RN Ravi over the DMK minister V Senthil Balaji and the former AIADMK ministers, Stalin pointed out the Governor's questionable actions that delayed his approval for prosecuting a former minister from the previous AIADMK-led government. He argued that this showcased the Governor's political bias. Stalin also recalled various statements made by Governor RN Ravi, asserting that they were not only against the elected government and the sentiments of TN's people but also contrary to the principles of the Indian Constitution. He highlighted the Governor's remarks as conflicting with the ideology of the elected government and the political landscape of the state.

He concluded his letter by telling President Droupadi Murmu that he was leaving the matter of removing Ravi from office to her to decide.

ELSEWHERE IN SOUTH

### 6 killed as car rams truck near Tirupati

TIRUPATI: In a road accident, six members of a family from Vijayawada were killed on the spot when the car they were travelling in rammed into a speeding truck head-on at Mittavarikandriga, close to Srikalahasti town of Tirupati district on Sunday. The victims, who include four women and two men, were on a pilgrimage tour, police said adding a 16-year-old was the lone survivor. They were returning to Vijayawada when they met with the accident. The police suspect over-speeding could be the reason for the mishap.

### Minor girl assaulted by school watchman

VISAKHAPATNAM: A minor schoolgirl was allegedly sexually assaulted by the watchman of a private school in the city. The incident came to light after the father of the girl lodged a complaint with the Airport police on Friday. The girl is studying class X. The 43-year-old watchman Satya Rao who stays in the same apartment of the girl allegedly sexually assaulted her repeatedly. Four of his friends are also involved in the act.

# Final rites of Jain monk performed, silent protest at Chikkodi today

Members of the Jain community stage a protest on NH4 in Belagavi on Sunday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Belagavi

THE last rites of Jain monk Acharya Shri Kamkumar Nandi Maharaj of Nandi Parvat Ashram, who was brutally murdered on July 6, was performed at Nandi Parvat in Hirekudi, Belagavi district, on Sunday.

Thousands of people from Chikkodi, Belagavi, and Nipani, and from neighbouring Maharashtra were present. The final rites were performed under the guidance of Dharmasena Bhattarak Pattacharya seer of Varur Mutt and Jinasen Bhattarak Pattacharya seer of Nandani Mutt. Bhimagond Ugare, who is the president of Nandi Maharaj Charitable Trust, lit the pyre. Jinasen Bhattarak Pattacharya seer said, "We have lost a great personality. To condemn this brutal act, people will gather in large numbers in Chikkodi at 10 am on Monday and a silent rally will be held. Such incidents should not happen to seers of any community. We will demand the government to give the strictest punishment to the accused."

Athani MLA Laxman Savadi, who visited Nandi Parvat Ashram, called the murder a shameful act. "The issue will be discussed in the ongoing session. The police are investigating the murder. The accused were arrested within a few hours after the missing persons complaint was registered. It is a big loss to society. All the legislators of Belagavi district condemn the killing. There is no need to politicise the murder," he said.

MLAs Shashikala Jolle and Ganesh Hukkeri were also present at the funeral. Earlier, the body of the seer was handed over to the members of the Nandi Parvat Ashram after an autopsy at the Belagavi Institute of Medical Science Hospital in Belagavi.

### BJP seeks thorough probe into murder

BENGALURU: BJP is expected to raise the issue of the horrifying murder of Jain muni Kamakumar Nandi Maharaj during the legislature session that resumes on Monday. Union minister Pralhad Joshi demanded to hand over the case to the CBI for investigation. BJP leaders, including party state president Nalin Kumar Kateel, said a thorough probe should be conducted. Ex-CM Basavaraj Bommai said, "I condemn the killing of the Jain muni, who was known for non-violence and peace, as an inhumane act." A protest demanding a high-level investigation will be held inside the Assembly on Monday, he added and said he spoke to Sri Gunadhara Nandi Maharaj of Varur Srikshetra of Hubballi, who is on a hunger strike to condemn the seer's killing. "I told him I have asked the govt to conduct a high-level investigation," he added.

### DKS PROMISES ACTION AGAINST THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR MURDER

BENGALURU: Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar assured on Sunday that stern action will be taken against those who are responsible for the murder of Belagavi's Jain monk Sri Kamakumar Nandi Maharaj and said that police will carry out a swift investigation. Shivakumar also said he is aware that Sri Gunadhar Nandi Maharaj of Varur near Hubballi has decided to launch a fast to demand security and protection for all the monks. He added, "There is no need of any fasts or protests as the state government will take necessary action to provide security to the monks."

## Jains stage protest in Belagavi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Belagavi

MEMBERS of the Jain community staged a massive protest by blocking the Pune-Bengaluru National Highway on Sunday near Suvarna Vidhana Soudha here condemning the brutal killing of Jain monk Acharya Shri Kamkumar Nandi Maharaj of Nandi Parvat Ashram.

The agitators demanded capital punishment for the accused involved in the killing. Hundreds of people under the leadership of Jain muni Shri Balacharya Siddasen Maharaj gathered on NH4 and raised slogans.

The seer said, "The day of the murder is a black day for the Jain community. Our protest is not against any religion, caste, party or any government. We are protesting to condemn the assassination of our Jain muni. Our voice should reach not just the Chief Minister but also to the Prime Minister. Jains believe in ahimsa. But, killing of our seers is not tolerable. The killers should be given the strictest punishment so that such acts do not repeat."

Community leader Bahubali Chougule said, "Jain Munis are those who even sacrifice their clothes. The money which the accused took from the seer belonged to a trust. It is wrongly portrayed in a section of media that the seer was killed after he asked them to repay the money."

Belagavi South MLA Abhay Patil and former MLA Sanjay Patil were also present.

(From left) A damaged house in Virajpet taluk, Damaged road near Ammathi, Uprooted tree on Chelavara Falls road

# KODAGU RECORDS MODERATE RAINFALL, MINOR DAMAGES

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Madikeri

MODERATE rainfall has been lashing across Kodagu even as river water levels are slowly rising. Minor landslides and damages to a few houses were reported following rainfall. The district has recorded 35.3 mm rainfall in the past 24 hours ending on Sunday morning.

Bhagamandala town recorded a rainfall of 59.4 mm in 24 hours and the water level in River Cauvery is slowly rising. However, the town is not under the threat of being flooded as there is respite from continuous rainfall. Power supply has been disrupted at several interior villages as trees have been uprooted on electric poles following strong winds. A total of 1018 electric poles and seven transformers have been damaged in the district due to rainfall from June till date. CESC department has suffered a loss of Rs 129.34 lakhs in one month due to rain related damages.

Several houses across the district have suffered damages in the rainfall and minor landslips. A compound wall of a house in Kanuru village was damaged in the rain on Saturday. A small landslip was reported on Ammathi-Kannangala Road, which was temporarily fixed by the concerned panchayat members. A total of 40 houses have suffered partial damage and two houses have been completely damaged in the district in the past month due to rainfall.

A huge tree came crashing down due to strong wind at Chelavara Falls road near Cheyandane. The electric line has been damaged and the tree blocked traffic for some time. However, the same was cleared following the efforts from the locals.

### Two more die in DK, death toll in the district reaches 6

MANGALURU: Two more persons died in rain related incidents in Dakshina Kannada taking the toll to six. Narayana (45), a labourer from Kasaragod was washed away after he fell into a stream connecting Payaswini river at Honnedi in Aletti village in Sullia taluk on July 6. His body was found 4 kilometers downstream by the fire and SDRF personnel on Sunday. In another incident, Keshav Naik (51) fell into a storm water drain and died while crossing a footbridge at Punacha village in Bantwal taluk. The tahsildar said rain had receded on Sunday in the taluk and it is yet to be confirmed if the death was due to calamity or not.

### Rain recedes in Udupi; roads deteriorate into slush

UDUPI: Rain receded in Udupi on Sunday giving some respite to the people as some areas had witnessed floods recently. In Kundapura, the weather was dry till noon and average rain was witnessed in the evening. As per the forecast done by IMD, Udupi district disaster management authority has sounded yellow alert for July 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14. After heavy rains in the district recently, people in some places have complained that the roads have deteriorated into mud and slush. A road between Laxmindra Nagara-Kamakshi Temple near Manipal has become unmotorable for the same reason. Local residents said that several school going children have to use this road stretch and the authorities concerned should concretize it without delay. Another road stretch from Gulvady Mavinakatte towards Hemmady in Byndoor assembly constituency is not in a motorable condition. There are many college going students who are using this road. Mud and slush on the road has made it unmotorable after the recent rains.

## Water level up by 4ft in KRS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mysuru

THE water level at the Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) reservoir, the lifeline for Bengaluru and Mysuru residents, has increased by 4 feet in just two days with copious rains lashing Kodagu district. Similarly, the water level at the Kabini reservoir rose by six feet following rains in Wayanad region of neighbouring Kerala.

The KRS had touched bottom rocks and water discharged for irrigation was stopped to utilise dead storage for drinking needs of Bengaluru, Mysuru, and other towns. Now, the water level at the KRS 84.5 feet as against the maximum of 124.8 feet with the inflow of 14,550 cusecs and an outflow of 310 cusecs.

# Modi likely to contest from TN, hints Nadda

VIVEK BHOOMI @ Hyderabad

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi is likely to contest the next Lok Sabha election from the Ramanathapuram constituency in Tamil Nadu if the party's central leadership takes a decision to this effect.

During the 'Regional Consultative Meeting' of BJP State presidents from 11 States and national general secretaries which was held at the BJP party office in Nampally on Sunday, party president JP Nadda informed the delegates that with a view to solidly establish itself in the south, the party decided to field Modi from one of the south Indian States.

When opinions were sought, a majority of the delegates suggested that Modi contest from Ramanathapuram. Nadda has also set the bar high for the 2024 parliament elections, as he informed the delegates that BJP should exceed 50 Lok Sabha seats from the south Indian States.

This goal is being seen as a strategy to balance the probability of the party losing in some of the northern states due to the anti-incumbency factor.

The success of Modi's public meeting in Warangal was appreciated during the meeting, and Nadda also said that the prime minister will address at least two more meetings in Telangana before the coming Assembly elections in the State.

Nadda called on the BJP leaders to end groupism in their respective States and work unitedly to bring the BJP back to power.

The Sunday's high-level meeting was held in four sessions, out of which, the progress of BJP's 'Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyan' was taken by the party's leadership.

All the eleven States submitted their report, which included information about the number of press conferences, social media influencers meetings, vyapari sammelans, vikas tirth yatras, intellectuals meetings, emergency documentary shows, public meetings, beneficiaries' meetings, social workers meetings, ghar ghar sampark abhiyan, Modi's Mann Ki Baat and other programmes which were planned as part of the campaign.

Around 34 delegates attended the meeting, which included BJP national general secretaries, BJP State presidents from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mumbai, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Puducherry, Lakshadweep and Goa.

BJP chief JP Nadda, party general secretary (organisation) BL Santhosh and other leaders during BJP's Regional Consultative Meeting in Hyderabad

## 'CONCEPT WILL HELP RESOLVE DISPUTES FAST'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

GADAG District Bar Association president M I Hiremani Patil said, "The concept is new and it will help sort out disputes fast. It will be a boon for villagers as they can easily solve their civil and criminal cases. We welcome this initiative."

A farmer and social activist Muttanna Karkikatti from Ron said, "It is good as many villagers travel 25-40 km from Ron to Gadag to attend court cases now. Rural courts will save time and many farmers and daily wagers can get back to work after attending court proceedings."

HK Patil said, "The initiative will be based on the Gram Nyayalaya Act 2008. We will also form some creative rules and they will function like JMFC courts. We will come out with all the details in the coming week."

## 'Rain has spread to most parts of K'taka'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

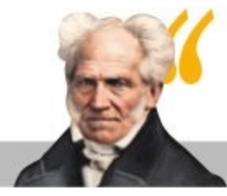
"We hope things will improve further," Reddy said.

During the ongoing legislature session, many MLAs had demanded that the state government declare a drought as there was a deficit in rainfall, but Revenue Minister Krishna Byregowda had said they would wait till July 15.

Reddy explained that there are many norms to declare a drought, including rainfall and reservoir levels. "As per NDRF (National Disaster Response Force) norms, there should be rain deficit for more than two months. But in Karnataka, though it was a deficit in June this year, things are improving in July. But there is a deficit as on date in many districts, especially Malnad areas," he said. Karnataka witnessed drought in 2019 and since then, every year, it has received good rain.

Prof MB Rajegowda, an agrometeorologist and ex-registrar of the University of Agricultural Sciences, said the forecast for July and August is good rainfall. "Even if there is a deficit in September, the state will anyway receive rain from October again. At present, rain has spread to most parts of the state. With this pattern, farmers can still go for long-duration crops, including ragi, paddy, groundnut and jowar," he said.

# EDITORIAL



Talent hits a target no one else can hit. Genius hits a target no one else can see

Arthur Schopenhauer

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

## INDIA'S DATA PROBLEM IS REAL, FIXING QUALITY A PRESSING PRIORITY

The issue of data quality in national surveys has reared its head again. A member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) recently claimed national surveys like the National Sample Survey (NSS), National Family Health Survey (NFHS), and the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) are based on faulty sampling. The government believes the samplings are based on obsolete methodologies and do not represent the population accurately, and hence they underestimate India's progress and development. Although the EAC-PM member questioning the 'quality' of government data is baffling, it also raises critical questions: What is the government doing to fix the problem (if at all there is one)? Is the data being questioned only because it does not concur with the government narrative on the economy?

The data collected by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) has been questioned by all sides of the political divide as well as by academicians, but for varied reasons. The incumbent government has been continuously at loggerheads with the NSSO because the former claims the data in the latter's surveys—NSS and PLFS—are not reflective of the progress India has made recently vis-à-vis economic and social indicators. Others have criticised the data for underestimating poverty and distress because of its non-coverage of several politically sensitive areas. The recent debate over India's actual 'poverty' rate further exposed India's data problem. While pro-government economists passionately argued that the poverty rate in India has fallen, others have argued that poverty levels have remained stagnant over the last decade. If prominent economists cite the same data and arrive at inferences which are poles apart, it does not augur well for the nation's policymaking.

The data quality gets even poorer at the state level. Agriculture and labour are two critical areas that come under the states' statistical systems. Statisticians have suggested more frequent changes in sampling frames, base year, etc., to correctly capture the change in consumption and employment patterns. The quality of data is critical for the government to frame economic and social sector policies. And if there is an issue with the quality, it needs to be fixed. And while the intellectual honesty of those who politicise data can be countered with one argument or another, the quality of data cannot be compromised.

## LITERATURE NOT A TOOL FOR POLITICAL PUBLICITY

The literary community in Kerala is up in arms against the Kerala Sahitya Akademi's decision to carry a logo marking the second anniversary of the LDF government on the cover of 30 books it published. The books included a collection of poems by acclaimed writers like K A Jayaseelan and Dr M Leelavati, and carried an insignia at the top of the cover which read, "Stronger, with our hands joined: the second anniversary of Pinarayi Vijayan government." It was an unprecedented move; naturally, it has invited sharp criticism from across the social spectrum. Some writers have taken to social media to voice their objections, asserting that no book should bear the government's advertisement. They even called for the withdrawal of publication contracts that allowed government advertisements on book covers.

As the issue snowballed into a controversy, Akademi secretary C P Aboobacker came up with a justification. According to him, the books were published as part of the 100-day development programme on the second anniversary of the LDF government. He explained that the logo distinguished the books as they were released on a special occasion. But that argument did not hold water as Akademi president and noted poet K Satchidanandan came out against it. In a Facebook post, he said that if the publication of the books was to mark the government's second anniversary, it should have been carried on the second page, or the matter could have been simply mentioned at the time of their launch. "Since governments can fall and books will always remain, the Akademi has the responsibility to be more careful in such matters," he wrote.

This is not a standalone issue involving a few book covers. Rather, this is symptomatic of the rot creeping into the system, and the overt politicisation happening in cultural spaces. The government may financially support the activities of all the academies engaged in cultural and literary activities, but that does not mean they have to be the publicity vehicles of successive governments. These developments point fingers at the increasing instances of self-governing institutions becoming tools in the hands of political sycophants. This kind of action will have far-reaching consequences. As Satchidanandan correctly said, governments may come and go, but books will always be there. And that is something everyone should keep in mind.

QUICK TAKE

### DANGERS OF N-WASTE

Japan will soon release treated radioactive water from the Fukushima nuclear meltdown into the Pacific—1.3m tonnes of water will be released over 30 years. Is it safe? Japan says the process meets international safety standards. But isotopes tritium and carbon-14 worry scientists. However weak, they are radiation emitters. Then how safe is the seafood web as larger fish eat smaller contaminated ones? The Pacific islanders' fear is genuine. Some still remember suffering the after-effects of last century's open-air nuclear testing. The release will happen amid two fears—Japan's running out of storage space and the islanders' unresolved contamination.

Colombo's serendipitous appearance may reflect momentary peace, but it is a call to brace for a possible public revolt

## AMID MOUNTING EXTERNAL DEBT, ALL IS NOT WELL IN LANKA

DILRUKSHI HANDUNNETTI

Award-winning journalist and lawyer. She is a founder and director of the Colombo-based Center for Investigative Reporting (CIR)

SOUMYADIP SINHA

The seeming normalcy in Sri Lanka belies an unavoidable and inconvenient truth: an ailing economy that feeds public despondency and fuels distrust. For all the political signalling to the contrary, such as President Ranil Wickremesinghe's expression of confidence at the June 30 annual general meeting of the Sri Lanka Institute of Directors towards being able to overcome bankruptcy by September, economic recovery would take some years and a complete overhaul to get out of the current abyss.

The resuscitation provided by a $3-billion bailout by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in March was only a vital and urgent step to unlock the doors of multilateral lending agencies, and in late June, the World Bank approved $700 million for Sri Lanka. The public has begun questioning the prudence of sticking only to the IMF road, which will further increase external debt in the absence of revenue generation mechanisms, notwithstanding the government's lofty claims.

The government recently shifted to internal debt restructuring, and there was no move to take the people into confidence barring the controlled narrative and media briefing. Wickremesinghe and his cohort may be too busy to engage. Still, on such critical matters, the 22 million people should at least have the basic information about what it entails and how it would affect them.

Sri Lankans were surprised when the island's banking sector shut down on June 27 for an unprecedented five-day period, and the government obtained cabinet sanction to restructure the country's domestic debt. On July 1, Sri Lanka's Parliament held a full-day debate on the Domestic Debt Restructuring Programme, which passed with 122 voting in favour and 62 against.

The frenzied deadlines to overhaul the economic double bind are part of the reformist agenda drawn at the behest of the IMF as an attempt to dig the nation out of its biggest financial crisis. The urgency may be real, but people who were forced to absorb multiple shocks in the past 20 months, including a total economic collapse, extreme hardships and crippling taxes—all due to the failure in governance—have little patience and lesser trust. And the trust deficit in the country's leadership is still quite high.

As things stand, Sri Lanka's total public debt was a staggering $83.6 billion by the end of 2022, which is 28.3% of the country's GDP. This comprises $41.5 billion in foreign debt and $42.1 billion in domestic debt.

Assurances notwithstanding, the government's decision to exclude commercial banks from the domestic restructuring framework may trigger questions as to why the State stays focused only on restructuring treasury bills and bonds under the Central Bank, and retirement funds such as the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees' Trust Fund (ETF), both also under the government.

However, the government's response is that the banking sector needs to be cushioned as it has already taken multiple hits in the past several months. Wickremesinghe and the governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka have assured the public that restructuring efforts would not affect the banking system or their deposits, but the people are full of questions.

Meanwhile, the government needs to expedite economic restructuring ahead of the IMF review in September, while pursuing short- and long-term solutions to the debt crisis, and also keeping the nation afloat.

While the economic reforms process continues pell-mell, on all other matters, except some urgent efforts to control freedom of expression and assembly, it's largely business as usual for the country's disgraced political tribe. The decision to introduce new laws, clearly a top priority for the Wickremesinghe administration, smacks of authoritarian needs to prevent public expression.

The government has indefinitely stalled the elections, with the reason of lack of funds being the flippant response to public outrage. New laws are being drafted to contain public debate on critical issues, and a counter-terrorism bill has been prepared to replace the draconian Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA)—all pushed with an inexplicable sense of urgency and without a consultative process. In his effort to consolidate power, President Wickremesinghe is making a huge mistake by crushing dissenting voices and aiming to control critical social media through regulations and arrests, a trend since he assumed office.

This sense of false normalcy generated by the country's ruling elite can be easily disrupted and carries a sense of doom.

Wickremesinghe, a man who loves to quote history selectively, may not mind comparisons being made between him and Lord Torrington, an unpopular British governor who had no governance strategy and eventually had to be recalled. He slapped taxes on shops, rafts, boats, horse-driven carriages, bullock carts and even dogs—anything he thought was taxable—to raise revenue for the Crown. His rule resulted in continuous public outrage, but his arrogance would not allow him to relent. Eventually, the governor's tax policy and his arbitrary and harmful rule resulted in a massive public revolt in 1848, also known as the Matale Rebellion. His response was to impose martial law, and people were shot at and killed, including heroic men such as Puran Appu and Gongalegoda Banda.

The comparisons don't end there. And an autocratic regime can't reduce the 2022 public revolt to a knee-jerk response of "angry young people when denied basic supplies". It runs way deeper, and the core of it is Sri Lanka's unaddressed governance crisis. It cannot be only answered with economic reforms and by introducing laws and regulations to gag the population.

The dark shadow of the Rajapaksas is still omnipresent. Wickremesinghe has chosen not to address the allegations against them and continues offering a protective cover for the disgraced political family.

Seventy-five years after independence, Sri Lanka's only nonperishable saving is the accumulated grief due to poor governance, which reduced an island of plenty to a shattered nation destined to remain poor for years.

Colombo's serendipitous appearance may reflect momentary peace, but it is a call to brace for a possible public revolt.

The ruling elite continues to ignore the reality that embers of dissent can be easily ignited, and people feel outraged. The business-as-usual politics, disregarding public sentiments, can prove disastrous and may disrupt whatever reforms are currently underway. Political arrogance, especially if it is devoid of legitimacy, can prove toxic and harmful.

*(dilrukshi@cir.lk)*
*(dilrukshihandunnetti@gmail.com)*

## STORIES FOR THE SACRED MONTH OF SHRAVAN

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

This year, Shravan, the holiest Indian month, is being celebrated from July 4 to August 31. It is eight weeks long instead of the usual four, to accommodate the 'extra month' or *Adhik Maas*. This extra month is periodically added to the Indian lunar calendar, which has 354 days, to synchronise it with the solar calendar, which has 365 days. I am also told that *Adhik Maas* is added after every 32 months, 16 days and eight 'ghadis', a ghadi being a unit of 24 minutes. A long Shravan is reportedly happening after nearly 20 years. Shravan, also called Sawan, is sacred to Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati. Believers fast on Mondays for Shiva and dedicate Tuesdays to Parvati. Today is the first Shravan Somvar or Shravan Monday, and many people across India will fast today.

Some touching stories about Shiva and Parvati come back to mind in Shravan. One goes that three gems came up from the churning of the Ocean of Milk. The ruby-red Kaustubha went of its own accord to Vishnu to adorn his chest. The glittering Chintamani, a wish-fulfiller with sparks of fire in it, was pocketed by Indra, securing his wealth for good. But the elegant, pale-yellow Chudamani had its own poignant adventures. Among others, one story goes that Vishnu presented the Chudamani to Shiva to wear as a crest jewel. Shiva thanked Vishnu but since he did not wear finery, he handed it to Parvati who clipped it gaily in her hair. We normally associate the Chudamani with Sita, not Parvati, so how did it become Sita's?

Once, goes a tale, when Parvati flew above the earth, a strong breeze blew her hair about. The Chudamani in her hair was loosened and fell to earth. Parvati looked down to see where it had fallen. She saw that it had landed in the garden of King Janaka of Videha and that a little girl had picked it up and was playing with it. That little girl was Sita. Parvati laughed when she saw who it was—Mahalakshmi herself in her avatar as Sita—and flew on, thinking, "Let her keep it." Shiva did not mind in the least because he was not bothered about material possessions.

As it turned out later, when it was time for Rama, Sita and Lakshmana to go into exile, Kaikeyi took away their fine clothes and gave them *chira valkala* to wear instead, the tree bark dresses worn by ascetics. But she could not touch the jewellery that Sita had brought from her father's home, including the Chudamani that Sita would one day give Hanuman to take to Rama. Nor could Kaikeyi take away Rama's ring, the one that he sent to Sita with Hanuman, because it was King Janaka's gift to him, presented by Videha, not Ayodhya.

Meanwhile, Shiva's merciful nature went even beyond saving the world by drinking the *Kalakuta*, the lethal poison that emerged from the Ocean of Milk.

EXPRESS PHOTO

> Lord Shiva granted the *vish purush* the boon that he would return to Nature one day by being born as the son of Drona. So the *vish purush* was born as Ashvatthama

Parvati stopped the poison at Shiva's neck, which turned his throat blue, giving him the name 'Neelkanth' or Blue Throat. But the *vish purush* or spirit of *Kalakuta* sprang out from Shiva's neck and fell at his feet, crying in shame at the 'Swami Droham' or act against God that he had involuntarily committed by burning Shiva's throat blue. He wept in despair about the ferocity of his substance.

So Shiva, who cared nothing for himself but gave things away to others, blessed the *vish purush* with a boon, for it was not *Kalakuta's* fault that it was so deadly. It had lain quietly inactive at the bottom of the sea, minding its own business and not getting in anybody's way. It grew fierce only when messed with by the churning. So *Kalakuta* could not help being part of Nature's laws and neither could the *vish purush* help being *Kalakuta's* inner spirit person.

Lord Shiva granted the *vish purush* the boon that he would return to Nature one day by being born as the son of Drona. So the *vish purush* was born as Ashvatthama, supposedly in a cave in Uttarakhand, and only Krishna was able to fend him off. Ashvatthama is said to still wander the earth incognito and take note when we stir up world-destroying poisons ourselves—like nuclear energy and the Wuhan virus, I imagine. It is such a shame that Ashvatthama wasted his human birth as a fawning courtier of Duryodhana and killed sleeping opponents.

As for Parvati, she stretched her limits whole-heartedly in human form when initially rejected by Shiva, for she was not a quitter. "I have to marry Shiva for the well-being of the world, so I will," she told herself sternly. "He likes austerity, does he? I'll show him austerity."

Overcoming her parents' objections, Parvati cast away her royal robes and put on *chira valkala*. She stood in the waters of a lonely pond in the forest, meditating all day on Shiva. She was indifferent to heat, rain and cold and to insects and wild animals. Her skin grew deeply tanned and her face, shoulders and arms grew painfully sunburned. Her long, lustrous hair grew matted like Shiva's, her body shrank and her delicate ribs stuck out as she gradually stopped eating. "Aparna!" exclaimed the shocked sages who passed by, "She doesn't eat even a leaf", while her mother, Mena, cried "Ooh, ma!" which is "Oh, don't!" in Sanskrit. The stoic princess thereby acquired the names Aparna and Uma.

The horrified devas, who had begged the Parashakti in the first place to become Parvati and marry Shiva, watched helplessly as Parvati grew thinner and thinner. "We're sorry we did this to you, Mother," they wept in remorse, "Why won't Shiva listen?"

We know that he did eventually, and their wedding, according to Indian tradition, was the world's first big party with everyone present from heaven, earth and the netherworld. And so, this Shravan, we carry on gratefully celebrating the hardworking gods.

*(shebaba09@gmail.com)*

## MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

### BJP strategy

Ref: *BJP divide and fool may boomerang* (July 9). As Prabhu Chawla says, luring regional outfits may not reap the expected results. The BJP has to launch new schemes to retain the voters' loyalty. Enticing smaller outfits will result in more problems than solutions.
**M B Balasubramanyam, Bengaluru**

### Re-polling needed

Ref: *TMC, BJP, CPM members among at least 12 killed in Bengal polls* (July 9). The visuals on TV showing polling booths being captured and ransacked, ballot boxes thrown into ponds, and polling staff brutally manhandled are indicative of the reality that TMC doesn't want an orderly election to be held. Re-polling in the affected booths is the only option. More central forces are needed to prevent such incidents.
**K V Raghuram, Wayanad**

### Panchayat elections

Elections are generally termed as the festival of democracy, but this is far from true in the violent WB panchayat polls. The Centre and the state government should keep politics aside, take the necessary actions and punish the attackers in order to sustain the rich heritage of our grassroots democracy.
**Ajay Rajeev, Cherthala**

### Surname defamation

It was only expected that the Gujarat HC would decline staying Rahul Gandhi's conviction in the Modi surname defamation case. Indian criminal defamation law seems, in both letter and spirit, to have become only more regressive since it was first enacted in 1860. The dangers it poses to Indian democracy are evident in Rahul's conviction, as the law appears to protect the ruling class and browbeat critics into silence.
**R Sivakumar, Chennai**

### Achani Ravi

The passing of Ravindranathan Nair, fondly called Achani Ravi, is a great loss to Malayalam cinema. For close to 20 years, he played a key role in producing avant garde films, and brought into the limelight auteurs like G Aravindan, Adoor Gopalakrishnan and Vincent. In fact, he was credited with bringing Malayalam cinema on par with world cinema.
**K S Sundaram, email**

### Internet ban

Ref: *Manipur govt told to lift ban on Internet* (July 9). The Manipur High Court order directing the state government to partially lift the ban on the internet is a great relief for the public. It is also a big step towards restoring normalcy in the region.
**P Victor Selvaraj, Palayamkottai**

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **Santwana Bhattacharya**
Published by **R K Jhunjhunwala** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 59, No. 162 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

**TWEETS OF THE DAY**

**Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi** @naqvimukhtar
Misusing the Freedom of Speech as an 'armour of anarchy and abuse' is a 'complot to conspire' against democratic and Constitutional values of the country.

**Rahul Gandhi** @RahulGandhi
To strengthen the automobile industry of India, there is a need to empower the mechanics of India.

**Arvind Kejriwal** @ArvindKejriwal
Prime Minister...Like your other guarantees, the guarantee of taking action against corruption is also false.

# Jaishankar likely to contest RS polls from Gandhinagar

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

PUTTING an end to speculations that External Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** may contest the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, it has almost become clear that the former diplomat will file his nomination for the Upper House of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) from Gujarat's Gandhinagar on Monday.

Though BJP has not officially declared this at the time of this reporting, party sources informed that Jaishankar, who is scheduled to accompany Prime Minister Narendra Modi to France this week, has been asked to file nomination from Gandhinagar on Monday.

Earlier, speculation was rife that he will contest the Lok Sabha election from the New Delhi seat. "But the entire plan changed in the last few days," said a senior party source.

Jaishankar, who became a Cabinet minister in 2019, was nominated to Rajya Sabha from the seat vacated by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in 2019 after the latter was elected to Lok Sabha from Gandhinagar that year. The BJP has a strength of 156 in the 182-member Gujarat assembly, and hence, Jaishankar's victory is almost assured in Gandhinagar seat.

There are two other RS seats from Gujarat that are soon to be vacated after retirement of MPs Dinesh Anavadiya and Jugalsinh Lokhandwala. The elections for 10 Rajya Sabha seats are slated to be held in July, including six seats from West Bengal and one from Goa.

According to sources said six other Rajya Sabha MPs retiring from West Bengal this month are Derek O'Brien, Dola Sen, Shanta Chhetri, Sushmita Dev, Sukhendu Sekhar Roy and Pradeep Bhattacharya.

# Modi may contest LS polls from Ramanathapuram

## Majority of state BJP presidents suggested the Tamil Nadu seat

VIVEK BHOOMI @ Hyderabad

BJP national president JP Nadda being welcomed by Telangana BJP chief G Kishan Reddy at Begumpet airport in Hyderabad on Sunday | PTI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi is likely to contest the next Lok Sabha election from the Ramanathapuram constituency in Tamil Nadu if the party's central leadership takes a decision to this effect.

During the 'Regional Consultative Meeting' of BJP presidents from 11 states and national general secretaries, which was held at the BJP party office in Nampally on Sunday, party president JP Nadda informed the delegates that with a view to solidly establishing itself in the south, the party decided to field Modi from one of the south Indian states.

When he sought the opinion of the delegates, it was known that a majority of them suggested that Modi contest from Ramanathapuram. Presently, K Navaskani of the Indian Muslim League is the MP from the constituency.

The suggestion of the party leaders is significant and challenging as well, as Modi presently represents the Hindu-dominated Varanasi, and if he can defeat Navaskani from Ramanathapuram, which has a significant Muslim votes, that would send out a strong message to the entire southern states that if Hindus organise as a vote bank in support of the BJP, any outcome is possible.

Nadda has also set the bar high for the 2024 parliament elections, as he informed the delegates that BJP should exceed 50 Lok Sabha seats from the south Indian states. This goal is being seen as a strategy to balance the probability of the party losing in some of the northern states due to the anti-incumbency factor.

The success of Modi's public meeting in Warangal was appreciated during the meeting, and Nadda also said that the Prime Minister will address at least two more meetings in Telangana before the upcoming assembly polls in the state.

## POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI
The writer is Resident Editor TNIE, New Delhi.
Email: shahid@newindianexpress.com

### Election 2024

**SHAH, SUKHBIR TALK TIE-UP AS PM WANTS NDA EXPANDED**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked his party leaders to reconnect with all former allies of the BJP to revive and strengthen the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), the creation of which resulted in the first BJP-led government at the Centre. Sources said Union Home Minister Amit Shah had a 45-minute meeting with Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Badal in Delhi last week when the latter returned from a 20-day foreign trip. They discussed the possibility of a seat-sharing agreement in Punjab. SAD already has an alliance with the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP). According to sources, Sukhbir told Shah that he would have to talk to BSP chief Mayawati before committing. He has so far not discussed the issue within his party. If SAD accepts the BJP offer, the NDA will have a formidable line-up in Punjab---BJP, SAD, BSP and the two top leaders of the Congress, Capt Amarinder Singh and Sunil Jakhar, who are now in the BJP. Sources said the BJP expects more influx from Congress once the alliance with SAD and BSP is announced. The BJP is also talking to the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and some smaller Uttar Pradesh and Bihar parties. During Vajpayee's leadership, there were 23 parties in the NDA. But the alliance started shrinking as a resurgent BJP under Modi's leadership decided to aggressively work on its own growth rather than relying on alliance partners. As a result, it lost four of its oldest and biggest allies, namely the Janata Dal (United), earlier known as Samata Party, Shiv Sena, SAD and TDP. The BJP also lost its ally in Odisha, Biju Janata Dal, over a tussle on seat sharing. The wheel seems to have come full circle.

### Battle Plans

**RAHUL WANTS EX-CONGMEN BACK INTO PARTY FOLD**

While the BJP is busy winning over its old friends, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi has reportedly asked party president Mallikarjun Kharge to try and bring back into the party fold all those who quit the Congress not because of any ideological differences but because of organisational issues. The plan has been set into motion. Among the first to be contacted was former Punjab chief minister Amarinder Singh. According to sources, former general secretary Priyanka Gandhi had a long telephonic conversation with the veteran Punjab leader. Amarinder had quit Congress after Priyanka insisted on promoting former cricketer Navjot Singh Sidhu within the party, and the leadership decided to replace the former with Charanjit Singh Channi as chief minister. The experiment proved disastrous for the Congress, and it faced a rout in the assembly election at the hands of the Aam Aadmi Party. Things have since gone downhill for the party in Punjab, with prominent leaders quitting. Sources said Amarinder was surprised by Priyanka's call. The talks were pleasant, but no commitments were made. Next on the list is Ghulam Nabi Azad, followed by Kapil Sibal and other members of the erstwhile Group of 23 leaders or G-23, who had walked out of the party demanding, inter alia, a free and fair election of a new Congress president and the Congress Working Committee. Their demand has been partially met with the election of Kharge as president. Interestingly, it was Rahul Gandhi's stubborn 'jaate hain to jayein' (if they want to leave, they can leave) attitude that led to a flurry of exits from Congress. But in politics, there are no permanent enemies, especially in election season.

# New set of Vande Bharat trains to get a saffron and green makeover

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

Vande Bharat Express trains at the Integral Coach Facility in Chennai | PTI

IN A move that could invite more criticism than compliments from the Opposition, Indian Railways is getting ready to roll out the country's 28th set of premier Vande Bharat trains in a new colour combination — saffron and green.

The current sets of Vande Bharat trains are coloured white, with blue stripes.

The Vande Bharat trains in saffron and green are being prepared with 25 modifications and various new features.

Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Saturday visited to Integral Coach Factory in Chennai, where the new trains are in the last phase of production. He also shared pictures of the new trains.

Railway sources said that the new colour combination has been inspired by the tricolour of the Indian national flag and is expected to get a rousing welcome from people after it is finally rolled out on the track.

Some officials, who did not wish to be named, opined that new colours on the Vande Bharat train suits its patriotic name. "One should not read anything political between the lines with regard to the colours," said a senior railway officer. When asked about the routes in which the new Vande Bharat train would run, he said the routes are being discussed at the higher level.

"The new Vande Bharat trains will roll out in a colour combination of saffron with the stripes of green (on doors and body). The face of train (driver cabin) will have a strong exhibition of orange to make it more aesthetic and eye-catching," said a senior official.

At present, 54 Vande Bharat trains run on electrified routes across 24 states, connecting more than 120 cities.

The 28th set of Vande Bharat trains are expected to be rolled out soon.

# 'Digital learning: India has a long way to go'

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

INDIA still has to boost digital learning even though the Covid-19 pandemic has nudged most of the world towards virtual classrooms, says a report.

The latest Union Education Ministry's Performance Grade Index (PGI) for school education for 2021-22 showed that most Indian states, especially from south India, are still at the bottom of the chart. This shows the need to boost digital learning across the country.

The only state that performed well in connecting students to digital learning was Punjab, where all 23 districts scored reasonably well. Punjab also retained its top position in the overall rankings, with last year's top performers, Kerala and Maharashtra, taking the second-best slots in the grading. In contrast to Punjab, Chandigarh, a Union Territory, failed in all categories.

> **Overall grade level improvement in 2021-22 under the category is 202 districts. But most districts are still bottom-three grades indicating the need for boosting the digital learning aspect**
>
> Report

The only state in the south with notable performance was Kerala. However, it is still a long way compared to Punjab.

The sole Kerala district to score 33 out of 50 was Palakkad in the southern states.

Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka were far off in providing digital learning to their students, the report said.

However, Puducherry performed better in this category. All its districts scored around 30. Of the 37 districts of Tamil Nadu, only one district, Chennai, performed better with a score of 28, while all the other districts were less than 20. Similarly, in Karnataka, the only district that performed well was Bengaluru South, with a score of 27.

Apart from Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi, Gujarat and Rajasthan could perform well in this category. All the states in the northeast performed poorly in this category.

# Indian cities make service delivery efficient

**MANOJ JOSHI**
Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

CITIES in India have come a long way in the last decade, especially in improving service delivery to citizens, which has led to better governance and enhanced overall quality of life. We still have a lot to do, but we must take a moment to celebrate our achievements. The Urban 20 (U20) engagement group under India's G20 presidency is a global platform to showcase the incredible journey of our cities.

For the past decade, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, has strived to guide and support cities on multiple urban issues, focusing on creating strong, equitable, and sustainable public services. Cities across India are actively developing innovative solutions to meet these challenges by becoming future-ready and contributing effectively towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals by ensuring effective service delivery and management.

The Urban 20 (U20) cycle this year focuses on six priority areas, and all of these are directly or indirectly linked to city-level actions to make public services more effective and inclusive. The priority area is 'encouraging environmentally responsible behaviours', which stresses actions by individuals, businesses, and urban local bodies. 'Ensuring water security' speaks pointedly about water as a precious resource and what steps cities must take to adopt sustainable water management practices. Two priorities deal with prioritising strategic planning – one at the regional level to get benefits of economies of scale and agglomeration, and create avenues for shared infrastructure; and two, contextual solutions designed for 'places' to enhance local economy and culture.

For the past decade, India's national-level initiatives, such as the AMRUT 2.0 (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation), Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 and the Smart Cities Mission, have focused on infrastructure improvement and service delivery. The success of these initiatives has led to better health and well-being of millions of Indians and enhanced ease of living and economic prosperity in several towns and cities. The Phase-2 of the Swachh Bharat Mission seeks to provide adequate facilities for Solid and Liquid Waste, including plastic waste management across India. Some of the achievements include 11 crore households with tap connections having safe and clean drinking water; all our urban local bodies are now Open Defecation Free (ODF); 3,547 urban local bodies have functional and hygienic community and public toilets, making them ODF; waste processing has improved greatly, with a fourfold increase from 17 per cent in 2014 to 75 per cent today.

Sustainable solutions necessitate unified efforts that transcend boundaries, and the success of these missions is also due to the ministry being a point of knowledge exchange among cities, saving time and energy and avoiding duplication of effort by every individual city. Improvements in urban service delivery lead to many positive externalities related to quality of life as multiple challenges related to public health and well-being are tackled simultaneously.

I look forward to the upcoming Urban 20 Mayoral Summit in Ahmedabad to share our experiences and learn from other cities across the globe about their efforts in tackling similar urban challenges. The U20 engagement group resonates with our Prime Minister's vision for G20, 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (One Earth, One Family, One Future), as cities worldwide have always been connected as primary engines of global trade and economic growth. Now, cities are becoming leaders in sustainable development and extremely critical stakeholders in shaping the world's future. As we progress, cities must emulate and adapt successes and good practices from other cities and strengthen this global interconnectedness.

> **'Waste processing increased fourfold in nine years'**
>
> India's national initiatives has led to better health and well-being of millions of Indians and enhanced ease of living and economic prosperity in several towns and cities. Phase-2 of the Swachh Bharat Mission seeks to provide adequate facilities for solid and liquid waste management across India. Some of the achievements include 11 crore households with tap connections having safe and clean drinking water; all our urban local bodies are now Open Defecation Free (ODF); 3,547 urban local bodies have functional and hygienic community and public toilets; waste processing has improved greatly, with a fourfold increase from 17 per cent in 2014 to 75 per cent now.

# Eating junk food during pregnancy leads to larger heads in kids: Study

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

CONSUMPTION of ultra-processed food during pregnancy may impact the child's growth, according to findings from a recent study. It was found that the children's head circumference and femur length was higher in cases where mothers consumed ultra-processed food (UPF). No impact was found on the abdominal circumference.

The study, published in the British Journal of Nutrition, is based on research in Brazil on the food consumption patterns of 417 mothers and the impact of it on their children. Out of the total sample, nearly half of the mothers were pregnant for the first time, with an average age of 24.7 years.

"Frequency of UPF consumption was negatively associated with skeletal components of foetal growth in late pregnancy. Infant body composition may benefit from healthy food practices during pregnancy," the study said.

The report adds evidence in the area not much studied so far, said senior paediatrician Dr Arun Gupta, who is also the convenor of Nutrition Advocacy in Public Interest, a national think-tank of independent medical experts. "Most of the studies have been on the adult population. It shows negative impact of daily consumption of ultra-processed food products during pregnancy on the growth of newborn babies," Gupta said, adding, "The solution is to follow dietary guidelines to promote healthy food diets and avoid UPFs during pregnancy to achieve better foetal growth outcomes."

UPFs are industrial formulations made by deconstructing natural food into chemical constituents. It destroys the fundamental food matrix. The fibre content is ripped off; and sugars, fats or salts are added. They are modified with cosmetic additives such as emulsifiers, stabilisers, colouring agents and flavours.

Increased intake of UPFs is associated with a higher incidences of overweight, diabetes, cancers and heart diseases.

### *DOWNSIDE OF FUN FOOD*

**ULTRA PROCESSED FOOD**

UPFs are industrial formulations made by breaking down natural food into chemical constituents

**It destroys the fundamental food matrix. The fibre content is ripped off. sugars, fats or salts are added**

The food is modified with cosmetic additives like emulsifiers, stabilisers, colouring agents, flavours

**EFFECT ON FOETUS**

The children's head circumference and femur length was higher in cases where mothers consumed ultra-processed food.

No impact was found on the abdominal

**TOMATO BOUNCERS**

In an apparent attempt to score political points, an SP worker who is also a vegetable vendor purportedly hired bouncers to "protect" the produce in his store amid record high prices of tomatoes across the country.

03 CYBER CRIMINALS HELD IN JHARKHAND

| INDIA | Max | Min | | Max | Min |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | 27 | 25 | Mumbai | 30 | 27 |
| Bhopal | 29 | 24 | Panaji | 30 | 27 |
| Jaipur | 35 | 26 | Patna | 36 | 29 |
| Amritsar | 38 | 26 | Lucknow | 31 | 26 |
| Chennai | 34 | 29 | Port Blair | 30 | 27 |
| Kolkata | 35 | 29 | Imphal | 28 | 22 |
| Srinagar | 33 | 16 | Chandigarh | 34 | 26 |

In a day of death and destruction across north India due to rain, 13 casualties were reported from HP & Uttarakhand; no relief in coming days

## Punjab calls in Army

The Punjab Government has asked for Army help to deal with floods in the Mohali district of Punjab adjoining Chandigarh. Due to heavy downpour in several parts of Punjab and Haryana, there was massive water logging in low-lying areas. Meanwhile, both Sutluj and Beas rivers are in a spate in Punjab. Sources said that in a letter sent by the state home department today to Advisor, Civil Military Affairs, GOC-in-C Secretariat and Western Command, Chandimandir the government had requested for deployment of army to provide rescue relief for flood in SAS Nagar.

(From top) Beas river in spate, in Mandi; Debris of a house where 3 people died due to heavy rains in Shimla; Roads waterlogged in Mohali, Punjab| PTI /EXPRESS

# Rains wreak havoc in HP & U'khand

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

FIVE people were killed due to heavy rains which led to landslides in Himachal Pradesh while many houses were damaged. In the last 36 hours, 13 landslides and nine flash floods were reported across the hill state.

The Chandigarh-Manali National Highway was blocked due to major landslide as 736 roads, including three national highways are blocked.

Due to heavy overnight downpour, the flood gates of Pandoh dam were opened to release extra water thus Beas river is flowing above the danger mark.

Sources said that three members of a family were killed in a house collapse due to landslide which triggered because of heavy rains in Kotgarh area of Shimla district. The deceased were identified as Anil, his wife Kiran and son Swapnil. In another incident, a person was buried alive following a landslide in Katiyan of Chamba district on Saturday night.

While another woman died as a makeshift house near Kullu was damaged in a landslide.

As per the state emergency operation centre, 13 landslides and 9 flash floods have been reported in the state in the past 36 hours.

The heavy rain wreaked havoc in Mandi, Kullu and Lahaul and Spiti districts causing considerable loss to the private and government property.

Many shops were washed away in flash flood at Bahang near Manali, while one under-construction house was submerged as the Beas River flooded near Patlikuhal in Kullu district.

Fortunately, one woman was rescued from under the debris in Kullu, also vehicles being washed away due to flash floods at Nullah in Kullu, Kinnaur and Chamba.

Due to heavy overnight downpour, the flood gates of Pandoh dam were opened to release extra water thus Beas River is flowing above the danger mark.

The market in Pandoh was submerged due to rains by the district administration. The Chandigarh-Manali National highway was blocked between Mandi and Pandoh thus the traffic has come to a halt. It is blocked at the same place where it was blocked on June 27 for 24 hours. The highway has also caved in near Manali. Besides, the Himachal government has ordered closure of all schools and colleges for two days.

Relief teams have recovered 5 bodies, search is on for the remaining three | EXPRESS

## Multiple fatalities, roads blocked in hill state; no relief till July 12

NARENDRA SETHI @Dehradun

IN Uttarakhand, eight people were killed in three separate incidents amid heavy rains in several areas of the state due to continuous bad weather. Relief teams have recovered 5 bodies, search is on for the remaining three.

Six people are feared dead when an SUV jeep carrying passengers from Sonprayag fell into the river. In Kashipur, a couple died when the roof of a house collapsed, while in Jwalapur, the roof of two houses collapsed.

Due to rains, landslides and road blockades, the state government has banned the inflow of tourists for the time being.

A total of 195 roads, including inter-district and main roads, are blocked in the state. The state meteorological department has predicted a repeat of the weather till July 12. The district administration of Nainital has announced the closure of all educational institutions till July 13.

The State Disaster Management authorities have issued instructions to the District Magistrates of 6 districts to remain on alert mode.

The State Disaster Management has issued instructions to the District Magistrates of 6 districts to remain on alert.

## CHANDIGARH DIARY

HARPREET BAJWA
Our correspondent in Chandigarh
hsbajwa73@gmail.com

### Will be CM if party so desires, says Hooda

Former Chief Minister and Leader of Opposition Bhupinder Singh Hooda in a press conference at Rohtak had said that the Congress lost the last assembly elections in Haryana due to wrongful allocation of party tickets and other shortcomings. He maintained that he does not blame anyone for the same as such things occur in all parties. Asked if Congress wins the assembly elections next year, then would he be the next Chief Minister, Hooda remarked that whosoever had the support of a majority of MLAs would be made the Chief Minister by the party. "I can be made the CM if I have the support of the majority of party MLAs," he said.

### Former Jathedar upset with SGPC committee?

When Giani Harpreet Singh was suddenly ousted from the post of acting Jathedar of Akal Takht (Highest Temporal body of Sikhs) and Giani Raghbir Singh was made the Jathedar, the former was likely upset with the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbhandak Committee (SGPC) and Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD). The speculations came when he did not attend the special executive committee meeting of the SGPC called on the Sikh Gudrwaras Amendment Bill 2023. He also skipped the installation ceremony of Takth Keshgarh Sahib Jathedar Giani Sultan Singh.

### AAP to announce civic body polls in September

The AAP-led Punjab government is expected to announce the local civic body elections in September, for 47 municipalities, including five municipal corporations in Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Patiala and Phagwara. There are a total 165 civic bodies in the state. But in the remaining civic bodies, who's term finishes in 2026, the AAP is now reaching out to the councillors of opposition and independents and is looking for support from them to take the control of the rest. The AAP leaders are reaching out to the councillors and some of the councillors are ready to switch sides, citing that they want funds to develop their wards.

## Dalit assaulted for entering temple in Doda district in J&K

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

A Dalit youth, who is a driver by profession, was allegedly assaulted by upper castes for entering and praying in a temple in mountainous Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir.

A 25-year-old, Bittu Ram, a resident of Hiller village of Ramban district, said he entered into a temple for praying in Ghala Dhar area of neighbouring Doda on June 18.

"When I was returning from the temple, about five-six men belonging to the upper caste (Rajput community) intercepted me about 3 kms from the temple. They told me it was not my mandir and how dare a lower caste enter the temple. They hurled abuses at me and when I protested, they assaulted and abducted me," Bittu alleged.

He said they beat him ruthlessly with sticks, belts and iron rod. "They also hit by private parts. I constantly pleaded for water but they kept abusing me and denied water to me. After five hours, they left me in unconscious on the roadside."

Bittu suffered a fracture in right arm due to the beating and has been operated on in the hospital.

## LJP leader Chirag likely to join NDA, may get berth in Union cabinet

RAMASHANKAR @Patna

BJP is likely to receive a major boost ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election with LJP (Ram Vilas) chief and MP Chirag Paswan likely to join the NDA. An indication to this effect came from Union minister of state for home Nityanand Rai meeting Chirag at his official residence in Shri Krishnapuri locality in the state capital.

Later, Chirag convened a meeting of the party's national and state-level office bearers and held discussions with them about the party's potential political alliances for the Lok Sabha polls.

There is also speculation that Chirag may be inducted in the Union cabinet in the next expansion, which is expected to happen in the near future.

Chirag told mediapersons that he held a meeting of the party's leaders to discuss possible alliances for the 2024 Lok Sabha election and the 2025 state assembly election.

Chirag said that party leaders authorised him to take a decision on the same.

He said that more such discussions would be held in the future, and said that becoming a minister was not his priority. Later, Chirag left for Delhi, triggering speculation that he may hold discussion with BJP₹s top brass before he takes a final call on his next political move.

When asked about joining the NDA, Chirag said that it would be not proper and also against 'gathbandhan dharm' to comment on it before deciding on the alliance.

LJP had extended issue-based support to BJP in the past too, he added. Chirag's proximity with BJP is an open secret as the Centre accorded him Z category security recently.

Nityanand Rai, after meeting Chirag said in Patna, "It is like our old home. It is also a nice experience meeting him. Ram Vilas Paswan ji and BJP had also worked in the interest of the people," he remarked.

Earlier, Hindustani Awam Morcha (HAM) founded by former chief minister Jitan Ram Manjhi joined NDA after snapping ties with the ruling Grand Alliance in Bihar headed by CM Nitish Kumar,

# Manipur: Uneasy calm prevails after days of endless violence

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

NO major incident of violence was reported from any part of Manipur on Sunday even as an MLA of the ruling BJP said a political solution to the crisis would be possible only after consultations with all stakeholders and the return of peace and normalcy.

Official sources said an uneasy calm prevailed in some vulnerable areas. At one place, the miscreants fired some "speculative" shots. Nobody was killed or injured.

In the state capital Imphal, some civil society organisations and women groups organised separate programmes where they renewed the demand that the government abrogate the suspension of operation agreement that it signed with the Kuki insurgent groups.

They also opposed the Kuki MLAs' demand of "separate administration" for the community. BJP MLA Rajkumar Imo Singh said whatever negotiations the Centre undertakes, the "final decision" would only come after consultations with all stakeholders.

The statement comes two days after Intelligence Bureau chief Tapan Kumar Deka met the leaders of Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum and Manipur Tribal Forum Delhi in the national capital.

"All of us have been assured that the territorial integrity of Manipur will be protected and the aspirations of all indigenous people of Manipur will be taken care of," Singh tweeted.

"...The political solution to be brought will come after consultations with all stakeholders when peace and normalcy returns," he further wrote.

The Nagas are one of the three major communities of Manipur. They opposed the state government's move to set up a semi-permanent relief camp in Ukhrul district for the displaced people of other districts. The Tangkhul Naga Long, which is the apex Naga organisation of Ukhrul district, said the government must work out a policy to accommodate the displaced persons in their original place and not scatter them in other places.

The violence, which broke out on May 3, left more than 120 people dead and over 50,000 others displaced.

**All of us have been assured that the territorial integrity of Manipur will be protected and the aspirations of all indigenous people of Manipur will be taken care of**

Rajkumar Imo Singh, BJP MLA

## 21K trees to be chopped in J&K to build national highway, reveals RTI

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

IN a matter of concern for the environmentalists and climate activists, over 21,000 trees would be axed in Jammu and Kashmir for construction of 670 kms Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

In reply to an RTI plea by Jammu-based RTI activist Raman Sharma, NHAI has revealed that 21,483 trees will be cut between Kunjwani to Sidhra and Sidhra to Ban Toll sections of Jammu-Katra Expressway in Jammu region.

As per NHAI reply, 11,946 will be axed under Jammu Forest Division on 13.4 kms between Kunjwani to Sidhra Section, 1,781 trees on 15.3 kms section from Sidhra to Ban Toll Section and 7,756 trees in 15.6 kms stretch between Domel to Katra.

The felling of trees has to be done under the supervision of J&K State Forest Department.

Of the 21,483 trees to be chopped, 8,150 have been cut while 13,332 will also be cut in a phased manner.

Besides cutting over 21,000 trees, over 716 Kanals (36.2511 Hectares) of forest land belonging to Jammu and Reasi Forest divisions shall be diverted to NAHI for non-forestry purposes and for construction of Jammu-Katra Expressway.

There is also a provision for Compensatory afforestation for degraded forest land for which the funds shall be provided by the user agency.

Pertinent to mention here that for construction of the new J&K High Court complex in Raika-Bahu forest area of Jammu (called as Lungs of Jammu), about 38,000 trees on about 40 hectares of forest land would be felled.

The Jammu HC is presently located at Janipur area of winter capital of J&K. The climate activists of Jammu under the banner of Climate Front Jammu are opposing the construction in forest land and felling of over 38,000 trees saying it will lead to ecological disaster in Jammu and hundreds of animals and birds will lose their habitat.

**Deforestation**

**21,483 TREES** will be cut between Kunjwani to Sidhra and Sidhra to Ban Toll sections of Jammu-Katra Expressway in Jammu, NHAI reveals

**1,781 trees** on **15.3 kms** section from Sidhra to Ban Toll Section and **7,756 trees** in **15.6 kms** stretch between Domel to Katra will be felled

**11,946** will be axed under Jammu Forest Division on **13.4 kms** between Kunjwani to Sidhra Section

Of the **21,483 trees** to be chopped, **8,150** have been cut while **13,332** will also be cut

## J'khand pushes for ISO tag for all 4,000 panchayats

MUKESH RANJAN @Ranchi

IN a first, Jharkhand will convert all 4,000 panchayats as model panchayats and facilitate them to get ISO certification from Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA), an autonomous body under Kerala's ministry of local government.

On a pilot basis, 50 panchayats across the state have been identified for the certification, which will be expanded gradually in phases depending on its success.

A draft has been prepared by the State Panchayati Raj Department in association with Civil Society Organisations (CSO-Forum) for the same.

Notably, a few legislators along with CSO forum recently visited Kerala and took stock of the Panchayati Raj arrangements in the state, following which, a decision was taken also to develop model panchayats in the state.

According to officials, the state government has also signed MoU with KILA for the overall development of panchayats in Jharkhand. The move aims at decentralising of powers and strengthening the local self government system.

"In a first such initiative in Jharkhand, KILA has been roped in to convert panchayats here into modern ones and help them getting ISO certification. Along with the ISO certification, standard operating procedure (sop) for complete development of the panchayats are being prepared under which efforts will be made to bring on 360 degree all and out development of the Panchayats," said State Panchayati Raj Director Nisha Oraon.

State Panchayati Director Nisha Oraon with KILA Director | EXPRESS

It is being done on pilot basis for which nearly 50 panchayats have been identified all over the state, she said.

According to the official, they will also need support from the local representatives as day to day monitoring of the panchayats has to be done.

"Every basic activity like how to run the office, how to dispose the applications coming to the Panchayat Secretariat, what should be the time limit for the certificates issued from there will be taken care properly to ensure that one do not have to the district office," said the Panchayati Raj director. To make it possible, basic requirement is that Panchayat Secretariats opens regularly and a roaster be made so that the panchayat-level workers are present there, she said.

"Basically, we are trying to make the panchayat Secretariat functional and create a service hub in each of the panchayats," said the director. In addition to that, the KILA will also design course modules for the training of Panchayati Raj representatives in the State, she said.

Notably, KILA was first appointed by Kerala Government in 2018 for providing consultancy for ISO certification of gram panchayats.

Since them, the state managed to get ISO certificates for all its 152 block panchayats in the State by the end of 2019 through its training and capacity building modules.

Jharkhand is the first state after Kerala which is striving to achieve ISO certification for its panchayats.

**SIX**
killed, 10 injured as gas cylinder explosion causes building to collapse in Pakistan's Punjab

**GLOBAL WEATHER**
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beijing | 39 | 26 | TDS | Los Angeles | 28 | 15 | LC |
| Colombo | 30 | 26 | LC | Melbourne | 16 | 12 | HR |
| Dhaka | 31 | 27 | TDS | Moscow | 20 | 12 | HR |
| Dubai | 42 | 34 | SNY | New York | 26 | 21 | LC |
| Houston | 36 | 27 | SNY | Singapore | 29 | 26 | TDS |
| Istanbul | 30 | 21 | LC | Toronto | 27 | 21 | LC |
| London | 23 | 17 | LC | Washington | 29 | 19 | LC |

## After protests, France bans fireworks sales for July 14

PARIS

FRANCE has banned the sale, possession and transport of fireworks during the July 14 national holiday weekend, following riots sparked by the police killing a teenager, the government said on Sunday.

Fireworks were among the weapons of choice during the unrest that exploded in France after a police officer shot dead a 17-year-old during a traffic stop on June 27 near Paris, rekindling long pent-up frustrations and accusations of systemic racism among France's security forces.

"In order to prevent the risk of serious disturbances to public order during the July 14 festivities, the sale, possession, transport and use of pyrotechnical articles and fireworks is banned until July 15 inclusively," said a government decree published in the official Journal on Sunday.

The ban does not extend to professionals or municipalities that are organising traditional fireworks for the Bastille Day celebrations, it added.

Worried about a possible resurgence of rioting, Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne told the daily Le Parisien on Saturday that the government would deploy "massive means to protect the French" during the national holiday.

Fireworks displays are an annual feature of Bastille Day celebrations. They are also often used during protests in the country. The police killing in the Paris suburb of Nanterre of Nahel M., who had Algerian roots, sparked France's worst urban violence since 2005.

More than 3,700 people were taken into police custody in connection with the protests since Nahel's death.

Meanwhile, a man arrested in Paris during a memorial rally for his brother, who had died in police custody seven years ago, has been released from hospital Sunday, amid calls for more protests. *AFP*

Joe Biden, escorted by Col. William "Chris" McDonald, waves to members of the media as he walks to board Air Force One in Delaware on Sunday | AP

# Zelenskyy smells good news from NATO summit

Biden says allies will lay out a rational path for Ukraine to join the North Atlantic Alliance

KYIV

UKRAINIAN President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Sunday voiced hope for the "best possible result" from an upcoming NATO summit where Ukraine is hoping for a clear signal that it could one day join the alliance.

After meeting his Polish counterpart Andrzej Duda, Zelenskyy said the two discussed the summit starting in Vilnius on Tuesday and agreed to "work together to get the best possible result for Ukraine."

Poland is one of Ukraine's biggest supporters within NATO and has said it wants "security guarantees" for the country from other NATO members.

Zelenskyy has said he does not expect Ukraine to actually join NATO until after the war but he hopes the summit will give a "clear signal" on the integral path for Ukraine to be able to qualify to be able to get into NATO."

Speaking to *CNN*, he said there were also "other qualifications that need to be met, including democratisation."

"I don't think there is unanimity in NATO about whether or not to bring Ukraine into the NATO family now, at this moment, in the middle of a war," he added.

Bringing Ukraine in now, Biden said, would mean "war with Russia" because of the NATO commitment to collective defence.

NATO could decide to elevate its relationship with Ukraine, creating what would be known as the NATO-Ukraine Council and giving Kyiv a seat at the table for consultations.

Also in the spotlight in Vilnius will be Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the main obstacle to Sweden's attempts to join NATO alongside neighbor Finland. Erdogan accuses Sweden of being too lenient on anti-Islamic demonstrations and militant Kurdish groups that have waged a long insurgency in Turkey. *AFP*

## Syria revokes BBC's media accreditation

Syria's Information Ministry has cancelled the *BBC's* media accreditation, accusing the British public broadcaster of biased and fake news in its coverage of the war-torn country

**MISLEADING REPORTS**

1. The Syrian Information Ministry late Saturday said the decision was made after "warning the channel more than once that it has broadcasted its misleading reports relying on statements and testimonies from terrorist entities and those hostile to Syria"
2. Damascus revoked the licenses of both the British broadcaster's radio and television correspondents in Syria, as well as their videographer

**WHAT IS *BBC* SAYING?**

- "We speak to people across the political spectrum to establish the facts," the *BBC* said in a statement emailed to AP, adding that the broadcaster provides "impartial independent journalism"
- We will continue to provide impartial news and information to our audiences across the Arabic-speaking world"

**CAPTAGON TRADE**

The illicit drug industry, most notably the addictive Captagon amphetamine pills, has blossomed in war-torn Syria in recent years

While experts say it has been a way to generate revenue for the country's crippled economy and sanctioned leadership, it has scourged neighbouring Jordan and Saudi Arabia, as well as other Gulf countries

Captagon has been used both recreationally and by people with physically demanding jobs to keep them alert as well as fighters on the battlefield

Documentary **ON DRUG TRADE**

**The announcement came days after *BBC Arabic* released an investigative documentary about the illicit drug trade in Syria, where they highlighted links between the multi-billion dollar industry and the Syrian army as well as members of President Bashar Assad's family**

## BBC suspends presenter over claims he paid a teenager for explicit photos

LONDON

THE *BBC* said on Sunday it suspended a male member of staff following allegations that one of its presenters paid a teenager thousands of pounds for sexually explicit photos.

UK culture minister Lucy Frazer said earlier she had spoken about the "deeply concerning" allegations with *BBC* Director General Tim Davie, who assured her the *BBC* is "investigating swiftly and sensitively."

*The Sun* newspaper, which first reported the claims, cited the young person's mother as saying that an unnamed *BBC* presenter paid her child over $45,000 for the images over a three-year period.

It is also claimed that the presenter in question appeared on air for a month after the family of the young person—who was said to be 17 when the payments started—complained to the *BBC* in May.

In a statement on Sunday, the *BBC* confirmed that it "first became aware of a complaint in May." "New allegations were put to us on Thursday of a different nature and in addition to our own enquiries, we have also been in touch with external authorities, in line with our protocols," it added.

The statement said that "a male member of staff has been suspended."

"This is a complex and fast moving set of circumstances and the *BBC* is working as quickly as possible to establish the facts in order to properly inform appropriate next steps," the *BBC* added.

The *BBC* said it takes "any allegations seriously" and has "robust internal processes in place to proactively deal with such allegations."

In an internal email sent to staff and quoted on the *BBC* website, Tim Davie said he is "wholly condemning the unsubstantiated rumours being made on the internet about some of our presenting talent."

Since *The Sun* published the allegations, some *BBC* presenters have taken to social media to deny that they are the broadcaster in question. *AFP*

**CALLS FOR TRANSPARENT INVESTIGATION**

Former home secretary and an MP from the ruling Conservative party, Priti Patel, has said the *BBC's* response was "derisory", adding: "They must provide the victim and his family a full and transparent investigation."

## US drone strike kills Islamic State group leader in Syria, says Centcom

WASHINGTON

A US drone strike has killed an Islamic State group leader in Syria after Russian warplanes harassed MQ-9 drones over the war-torn country, the US Central Command said on Sunday.

The strike on Friday resulted in the death of Osama al-Muhajer, IS leader in eastern Syria, Centcom said.

"We have made it clear that we remain committed to the defeat of ISIS throughout the region," Centcom chief General Michael Kurilla was quoted as saying, using another acronym for the IS jihadist group.

"ISIS remains a threat, not only to the region but well beyond," he added.

According to Centcom, no civilians were killed in the operation but coalition forces are "assessing reports of a civilian injury."

Friday's strike, Centcom said, "was conducted by the same MQ-9s (drones) that had... been harassed by Russian aircraft in an encounter that had lasted almost two hours."

US drones taking part in operations against IS in Syria were harassed on Thursday, for the second time in 24 hours, by Russian military aircraft, a US commander said at the time.

Air Force Lieutenant General Alexus Grynkewich said the planes "dropped flares in front of the drones and flew dangerously close, endangering the safety of all aircraft involved."

In another incident on Wednesday, three Russian jets dropped parachute flares in front of US drones, forcing them to take evasive action, Grynkewich has said, calling on Moscow to "cease this reckless behaviour".

Russia is a key ally of the Syrian regime of President Bashar al-Assad.

With the support of Moscow as well as Iran, Assad has clawed back much of the ground lost in the early stages of the Syrian conflict that erupted in 2011 when the government brutally repressed pro-democracy protests. *AFP*

Passersby and gunmen gather at the site of a reported drone strike in Bzaah town near al-Bab in Syria's Aleppo governorate on July 7 | AFP

**We have made it clear that we remain committed to the defeat of ISIS throughout the region. ISIS remains a threat, not only to the region but well beyond**

General Michael Kurilla, US Central Command chief

**EXPRESS READ**

### SL seeks stolen artifacts during anti-govt protest

Colombo: Sri Lanka offered an amnesty on Sunday for the return of historical treasures looted when protesters stormed the presidential palace a year ago. "Various valuable artefacts and archaeological items went missing, including coats of arms associated with former governors and presidents of Sri Lanka," the office President Ranil Wickremesinghe said, announcing a month-long amnesty to surrender the items. Officials released photos of five coats of arms, including one of Jorge de Albuquerque, the seventh Portuguese governor.

### New Zealand signs trade deal with the EU

Brussels: The European Union and New Zealand on Sunday signed a free trade agreement which Brussels says can lift exchanges between the two by 30% with a decade. The deal, agreed in June 2022, is "ambitious," said European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. According to Brussels, EU exports to the South Pacific nation could increase by 4.5 billion euros a year. The bloc's investment in New Zealand could climb progressively by as much as 80%. The deal includes a section on sustainable development, a first for an EU trade pact.

**ASIA MATTERS**

**INDONESIA**

### BOOSTING COOPERATIVE ADMIN'S SCOPE

Indonesia's Ministry of Cooperatives and Small and Medium enterprises will implement government's Freedom Campus Programme to boost the capacity of cooperative administrators. The ministry aims to utilise the training programme by offering subjects related to accounting, digitalisation, and exports for the cooperative administrators.
"Increasing competence of cooperative managers is aimed at fostering public trust in cooperatives...," said Nasrun Siagian, Assistant Deputy for Cooperative Human Resource Development

**MALAYSIA**

### RM302 MILLION LOST IN ONLINE SCAMS

Malaysia's Deputy Minister of Communications and Digital on Sunday said that Malaysians have suffered loss of RM302 million due to online scams on Facebook and Instagram from 2021 to June 2023. Losses incurred from Facebook scams amounted to RM232 mn while on Instagram, it was RM70 mn

**THAILAND**

### FRONTRUNNER FOR PM RALLIES SUPPORTERS

Thailand's progressive frontrunner for prime minister told supporters Sunday he would "not step back" ahead of a parliamentary vote this week that will determine if he will lead the country. Pita Limjaroenrat's pro-democracy Move Forward Party (MFP) netted the most seats at the May 14 election but there are no guarantees it will be able to form government. Pita said the kingdom faces a momentous day this week when both the upper and lower houses will vote. "If you do not step back, I won't," he said. "If we make the right decision... our country will develop," he told the crowd

## Pope names 21 new cardinals from across the world

VATICAN CITY

POPE Francis on Sunday announced he has chosen 21 new cardinals, including prelates from Jerusalem and Hong Kong—places where Catholics are a small minority—as he continues to leave his mark on the body of churchmen who will select his successor.

The pope had announced his picks during his customary weekly appearance to the public in St. Peter's Square, saying the ceremony to formally install the churchmen as cardinals will be held on September 30.

Among those tapped are several prelates holding or about to assume major Vatican posts, including the archbishop from La Plata, Argentina, Archbishop Victor Manuel Fernández, 59, whom the pope just named to lead the Holy See's powerful office for ensuring doctrinal orthodoxy and overseeing processing of allegations of sexual abuse against clergy worldwide.

Pope Francis delivers the Angelus noon prayer at Vatican on Sunday | AP

**Advisors on matters of administration**

Cardinals serve as advisers to the pontiff on matters of teaching and administration. Francis has now named nine batches of new cardinals. He had already appointed the large majority of those eligible to elect the next pontiff—those aged under 80. With the latest appointments, the number of cardinals who meet that condition stands at 137.

The new cardinals also include Hong Kong Bishop Stephen Sau-yan Chow, 64, and the Vatican's top official in the Middle East, Monsignor Pierbattista Pizzaballa, 58, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Those two churchmen guide flocks in geopolitical areas of keen concern to the Vatican.

On Sunday, in remarks preceding his reading out of the list of new cardinals, Pope Francis expressed hope that Israeli and Palestinian authorities would take up "direct dialogue" to end the "spiral of violence"—a reference to recent deadly clashes.

Francis repeatedly has cited the hardships of the Christian minority in the Middle East in recent decades.

In announcing their names, Francis said the appointment of cardinals from across the globe "expresses the universality of the Church that continues to announce the merciful love of God to all men of the Earth." *AP*

## Reporter for Mexican national newspaper found dead with signs of violence

MEXICO CITY

THE Mexican national newspaper *La Jornada* said on Saturday that its staff reporter in the Pacific coast state of Nayarit has been found dead.

The body of journalist Luis Martín Sánchez Iñiguez was found on the outskirts of the state capital, Tepic.

Sánchez Iñiguez, 59, had been missing since Wednesday and an appeal had been made to find him, the Nayarit state prosecutors' office said.

The office said later Saturday that relatives had identified Sánchez Iñiguez's body, and said he had been dead for one or two days before the corpse was found.

"The body was found with signs of violence, and two handwritten signs were found on it," prosecutors said in a statement, but did not reveal what the messages said.

Luis Martín Sánchez Iñiguez | LA JORNADA

Handwritten signs are frequently left by drug cartels with the bodies of victims, but the office said the motive in the killing was still under investigation. Sánchez Iñiguez was last seen in Xalisco, a Nayarit town that has long been linked to the smuggling of heroin and opium. Just two days after Sánchez Iñiguez disappeared, another journalist was abducted in the same area. Jonathan Lora Ramírez was abducted on Friday by "armed, masked men who arrived at his home in Xalisco, forced open the door and took him away," state prosecutors said.

Lora Ramírez was found alive and in good condition on Saturday, prosecutors said.

The prosecutors' office said a third media worker, identified as Osiris Maldonado, has been missing since July 3. Maldonado apparently worked in graphic design at *La Jornada*. *AP*

₹22,000 cr have been invested by FPIs in Indian equities in the first week of this month due to resilience of the domestic economy.

# Know income tax benefits of Hindu Undivided Family structure

HUFs are treated as separate taxpayers under Income Tax Act in India; income of HUF is taxed separately from individual income of its members

SACHIN KUMAR @Mumbai

IMPLEMENTATION of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) has caused widespread discussions and debates in the country, and has divided political leaders and analysts on the issue. Tax experts agree that its implementation will affect taxpayers who use Hindu Undivided Family (HUF) for tax planning. After its implementation, the concept of HUF will cease to exist which would have implications for individuals and corporates in terms of tax benefits.

Currently, the HUF, as a separate tax unit, enjoys exemptions, deductions, and a distinct tax exemption limit. Once UCC is implemented, these tax benefits associated with the HUF would no longer be applicable, which would force many taxpayers to rework their income tax planning.

**What is a HUF**

HUFs have a separate tax identity and are treated as a separate taxpayer under the Income Tax Act in India. They are eligible to claim tax deductions, exemptions, and other benefits available to individuals and businesses. HUF income is taxed separately from the individual income of its members.

Under Hindu Law, an HUF is a family which consists of all persons lineally descended from a common ancestor and includes their wives and unmarried daughters. An HUF cannot be created under a contract, it is created automatically in a Hindu Family. Jain and Sikh families even though are not governed by the Hindu Law, but they are treated as HUF under the Act. A HUF has its own PAN and files tax returns independent of its members.

"Once UCC is implemented, there is no chance of it being (HUF) retained, it will have to go. It will increase the tax outgo of the people who have been hitherto using HUF for tax planning. There are many who do not have HUF as a tax entity but there are many others who file their returns under HUF and lots of assets are held in the name of HUFs," Balwant Jain, a Mumbai-based tax and investment expert said.

**TAX PLANNING AND HUF**

Once UCC is implemented, HUF concept will cease to exist. **Withdrawal of HUF benefits under UCC impacts individuals and corporates.** Individuals relying on HUF structure for tax benefits would need to reassess their tax strategies. **Removal of tax benefits to increase tax outgo of people using HUF for tax planning.** Currently, HUFs enjoy separate tax identity, exemptions, deductions under the Income Tax Act.

**Impact of withdrawal of HUF benefits**

"Individuals who have been availing tax benefits and planning their finances based on the HUF structure would need to reassess their tax strategies. It could also impact succession planning and the division of ancestral property within Hindu families," Swati Jain, Strategic Business Advisor, Arihant Capital Markets, told TNIE. "Currently, the HUF is recognised as a separate tax unit under the Income Tax Act. It enjoys a separate tax exemption limit and various tax breaks under sections like 80C, 80D, 80DDB, 112A, and more," she added. The income tax slab for HUF is the same as that for individuals, with an exemption limit of ₹2.5 lakh in the old tax regime and ₹3 lakh in the new tax regime. HUFs also qualify for tax benefits on capital gains and enjoy exemptions in this regard.

"However, if the UCC is implemented, the concept of the HUF may cease to exist. Amendments to the Income Tax Act would likely be required if no specific provisions similar to the 'Kerala Joint Hindu Family System (Abolition) Act, 1975' are made in the UCC. This would mean that Hindus would no longer be entitled to claim any interest in ancestral property by birthright," said Swati Jain. For corporates, the removal of HUF benefits could impact tax planning for business structures that involve HUF entities. It may require adjustments in tax calculations and potentially affect the overall tax liability of such entities. "The HUF as a tax unit is not of recent origin. This was already there in the Income Tax Act, 1922, the predecessor of the present Income Tax Act of 1961, under which also it has been continued. Under the present tax laws, an HUF enjoys its existence, distinct and separate, from the members who constitute it. Being a separate tax unit, it enjoys a separate tax exemption limit in addition to the various tax breaks under Sections like 80 C, 80 D, 80 DDB, 112A etc," said Balwant Jain.

Every HUF is eligible for a basic exemption threshold similar to individual taxpayers. Thus, HUFs would not be subjected to any tax on its total income up to ₹2.5 lakh.

"As such, HUFs can claim this basic exemption thereby reducing its taxable income. Further, Finance Act 2023 provided that from FY 2023-24, the HUF can avail the benefit of enhanced basic exemption of up to ₹3 lakh under the new tax regime u/s 115BAC of the Income Tax Act, 1961," Suresh Surana, Founder, RSM India- a tax consulting firm, said. "As the IT Act identifies HUF as a separate legal entity distinct from its members, HUFs can enjoy separate threshold limits pertaining to various deductions and exemptions available under the IT Act," he added.

For instance, the threshold limit of ₹1.5 lakh under section 80C of the IT Act pertaining to various investment linked deductions such as tax-saving FDs, equity linked savings scheme applicable in case of HUF would be in addition to the threshold limit enjoyed by the members.

HUF provides a structured manner for the purpose of transferring of wealth to the next generation by ensuring the interest and basic requirements of the family members are provided for and also as a structure to achieve tax optimization at the family level.

MONEY MATTERS

# FOCUS ON YOURSELF TO GROW WEALTH

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
*(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)*

MANAGING money needs more from you than you think. You may not be familiar with the nuances of finance or investment. Yet, you need some understanding of finance to guide your savings and investments. A lot of time is spent trying to save money, cut corners and add to the existing pool of investments. Paying your taxes on time and filing your tax returns takes more time than expected.

You may want to step back and think about the time spent on the 'finance' bit in personal finance. You can do many things on the 'personal' front that can go a long way in helping you save and invest wisely.

**Never stop learning**

Investing in knowledge can have a long-term sustainable impact on your financial well-being. Your learning should never stop. It is always a good idea to add that new language skill. If you are a technology-oriented person, you can learn so many new programming languages. There are a variety of soft skills too. You could learn and teach about skills you know well. A lot of young people need training in etiquette in writing or speaking. You could sign up as a visiting faculty or work as a freelancer. There is learning everywhere. It does not matter if you are teaching or getting trained by an expert. Adding new skills is a way you could enhance your well-being.

**Importance of time**

There is a plethora of literature on the time value of money. You are told about investing your money in a disciplined manner for the long term. Your investment must beat the inflation demon to enjoy the benefit of wealth creation. However, your time is also equivalent to money. You cannot behave as if you are going to live forever. That makes time management a critical component of your personal life. The onus of that time management is entirely on you. How you utilize your time could eventually determine your financial future too.

Famous film and documentary maker Satyajit Ray made 36 feature films. Besides directing movies, he wrote screenplays, composed music, did calligraphy and created storyboards with illustrations. He wrote books and articles for periodicals and journals. His creative output was astounding in an era when technology was a challenge.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

**INVESTMENT SHOULD BEAT INFLATION**

There is a plethora of literature on the time value of money. You are told about investing money in a disciplined manner for the long term. Your investment must beat the inflation demon to enjoy the benefit of wealth creation. However, your time is also equivalent to money.

If you look at modern film production studios, they are stuffed with supercomputers that can do multiple tasks simultaneously. Even then, modern-day filmmakers are barely so productive. It is clear from the body of work Satyajit Ray produced that he was good at all his creative skills and a master of time management. Without efficient time management, achieving so much would be near impossible.

Whether you like it or not, we all live within a time limit. Treating time as a currency can make you productive. There are several books on 'time management' if you look up the internet. In a 2018 book, author and time management expert Laura Vanderkam highlights the importance of keeping a log of the time spent.

Companies want you to maintain timesheets of your work during office hours to track productivity. You do the same thing at home. The flip side of doing so is that you may discover many unpleasant things about yourself. By doing so, the author discovered that she spent 327 hours a year reading meaningless magazines. Knowledge of that allowed her to use her time productively. But that should not deter you from course correction.

With modern personal gadgets, you can increase your productivity multi-fold.

A smartphone today is as powerful as a supercomputer 20 years ago. Multitasking may not come naturally to all of us. However, with these gadgets, you can increase your productivity so that it could lead to a higher income. You try to manage your expenditure, taxes, and investments.

It may be a good idea to put yourself in to increase your income so that managing the other three can get more superficial.

MONEY-WISE

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
*Head of LKW-India. He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com*
*(Views expressed here are personal)*

# WILL YOU RISK YOUR FAMILY'S FUTURE ?

THE universal fact is, Death is certain. It is only the when, where and how is uncertain. Investor Behavioural studies suggest that most respondents are not comfortable even discussing this very basic fact of life. Leave alone a clear cut Will that details the Assets they hold and whom they wish to bequeath it to, most do not even have any Life Insurance.

Life Insurance penetration in India is dismally low at less than 5% and well more than half among those, are under-insured. A primary reason for underinsurance among the few that have Life Insurance is the Indian obsession with deriving 'returns' for any money expended. Many are disappointed to know that after their term of Life Cover ends at a specified age, they will not get any pecuniary benefit or returns for the premium paid.

The fact is that, if one looks at pure Life Insurance as an investment per se, the only way to maximize returns would be to hope to die soon after taking a policy, before the next premium becomes payable. The Return on Investment in such a case would be extraordinary.

On a more serious note, while many recognise the emotional turmoil and void left behind by a death in a family, most still prefer to turn a blind eye to the huge financial void that it often also leaves behind. I have seen far too many cases of families used to leading a very comfortable, if not luxurious life, suddenly finding their world turning upside down following the death of an uninsured bread-winner. It is heart-breaking even from a distance, to see the way the dreams and aspirations of the children especially, in such families come crashing down.

It is thus prudent for everyone who has even a single financial dependent to not just insure, but adequately insure themselves. How one arrives at the figure of 'adequate' insurance to ensure that every dream one has for one's loved ones is met, is not something that can be captured merely with an arithmetical calculation as many websites and 'experts' profess.

It requires a detailed evaluation session with one's advisor who can take a holistic view of where exactly one stands with their current investments and what it would cost 'financially' to replace themselves, financially at least, in the event of an untimely demise. A no frills Insurance Term Plan will usually serve the objective of pure Life Insurance, most cost-effectively. LIC's e-Term Insurance Plan which offers pure term cover and ICICI Pru's iProtect Smart which offers Life Insurance plus additional cover for 34 critical illnesses are popular options in this category and have a good claim settlement record.

Rest assured, if one stays on after adequately insuring oneself, one's family members will not complain. But, do not make the mistake of under-insurance. It could make all the difference to not just the lifestyle, but also the dreams and aspirations of one's loved ones.

So, have you secured your family's future ?

# Centre allows PMLA authorities to share information with GSTN

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE government has included the Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) – the IT backbone of the GST – in the list of agencies with which authorities under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) can share information with.

According to experts, PMLA officers collect a lot of data and this can be shared with several central agencies so that offenders can be brought to justice under various laws. By specifying GSTN in this list, requisite information will be shared with GSTN, empowering them to identify duplicitous supply chains.

Other authorities in the list are Directorate of Enforcement, Cabinet Secretariat, Intelligence Bureau, Economic Offences Wing of Central Bureau of Investigation, Chief Secretaries of the State Governments, Reserve Bank of India and Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India.

"Notifying GSTN under PMLA would enable a legal framework under which high-value tax offenders can be traced, apprehended and made liable to pay due taxes. GSTN can pass on relevant information on probable tax offenders to jurisdictional officers so as to initiate proceedings under GST law for scrutiny, adjudication and recovery of taxes," says Rajat Mohan, a New Delhi-based Chartered Accountant.

The government has been running a drive to detect fake GST registrations to curb the practice of availing fraudulent availing of input tax credit. The government has detected over 24,000 instances of fake GST invoices and fraudulent input tax credit claims worth ₹ 63,000 crore during the ongoing drive. It has also filed over 8,000 cases against individuals and entities.

The government has been spreading the tentacles of PMLA Act by bringing more transactions under its scope. Early this year, the government included transactions through virtual digital assets (VDAs) or cryptocurrencies under PMLA.

Activities carried out by the director or secretary of a company, a partner of a firm, trustee of a trust or nominee shareholders in the course of business on behalf of or for another person have also been brought under the purview of PMLA. In addition, those providing a registered office or accommodation, correspondence or administrative address for a company or a limited liability partnership or a trust have also been brought under the purview of the PMLA.

# Goyal to visit UK for trade negotiations

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

UNION Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal will embark on a two-day visit (10 and 11 July) to the UK for trade negotiations with the UK.

The visit will also see the minister meeting with ministers from the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) member countries to discuss the progress of the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) with EFTA.

The visit comes at a crucial juncture, as both India and the UK are committed to expanding their economic ties and exploring avenues for enhanced bilateral trade. "With the FTA negotiations gaining momentum, the visit aims to further propel the discussions and pave the way for a comprehensive and mutually beneficial agreement that would drive economic growth and strengthen ties between the two nations," said a statement.

# Adani Group says it raised $9 bn in four years; $1.38 bn from stake sale

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Adani Group on Sunday said it raised $9 billion in four years from leading global investors. In a statement, it said the Group is committed to raising capital to fulfill its 10-year roadmap of the transformative capital management program, which was formulated in 2016 to execute the plans for various portfolio companies.

Recently, the Adani family has raised $1.38 billion through stake sale in the three portfolio companies - Adani Enterprises Ltd, Adani Green Energy Ltd and Adani Transmission Ltd(ATL).

"This ensures higher capital availability at the group level, for growth as well as near-term commitments of both debt and equity for the portfolio companies over the next 12-18 months," the company said.

ATL is the largest private energy solutions player in India with presence in power transmission and distribution and an increasing focus on smart metering.

In addition, the three portfolio companies have also received board approval for primary issuances through a share sale to investors as the group continues to build on a comeback strategy to emerge from allegations of fraud levelled by a US short-seller. "A similar stake-sale by the family in March 2023 aggregating to $1.87 billion resulted in full prepayment of margin-linked, share-backed financing and created flexibility in a rising rate environment to equitize debt capital as and when due," the statement said.

Adani Enterprises Ltd, the group's flagship firm, plans to raise ₹12,500 crore through share sale to investors while electricity transmission company Adani Transmission another ₹8,500 crore. Its renewable energy firm plans to raise ₹12,300 crore.

This comes five months after Adani Enterprises was forced to abort a ₹20,000 crore follow-on public offering (FPO) in the wake of the Hindenburg report. The offer was fully subscribed but the company returned the money to subscribers.

US short-seller Hindenburg Research in January released a report alleging accounting fraud and stock price manipulation at Adani Group, triggering a stock market rout that had erased about $145 billion in the conglomerate's market value at its lowest point.

Adani Group had denied Hindenburg allegations.

## Sen in final, Sindhu suffers semifinal loss

Lakshya Sen stormed into the final of the Canada Open Super 500 badminton tournament with a win over Japan's Kenta Nishimoto. Sen saw off the world number 11 Japanese 21-17, 21-14. He will face China's Li Shi Feng in the final. PV Sindhu, however, went down 14-21, 15-21 to world no. 1 Akane Yamaguchi of Japan in her women's singles semifinal.

# Yashasvi set to build on the promise

After stellar show in domestic cricket across formats, Mumbai left-hand batter seems ready for international cricket

**GOMESH S** @Chennai

> *The names he has played with so far, the games in IPL, I don't think there is any extra pressure. But outside cricket, fame & new people come into life, which he has to keep in mind* – Jwala Singh, Yashasvi's childhood coach

WHEN Yashasvi Jaiswal made his first-class debut for Mumbai in January 2019, he had not even played the U19 World Cup. After an ordinary outing, it took him three years to play in the Ranji Trophy again — one season was cancelled due to Covid. However, since he came back in early 2022, the youngster hasn't looked back and grown from strength to strength. So much so that he earned his Test call-up in June and could well be making his India debut in the West Indies series that begins on July 12.

In the last 18 months, he has amassed 1815 runs in 24 first-class innings, averaging 82.5. Had an incredible season with the Rajasthan Royals in the 2023 Indian Premier League — 625 runs at 163.61 strike rate. One look at the numbers, it feels like he has upped his game multi-folds in the last couple years. However, Jwala Singh, his childhood coach, believes that it is just the reward for the process he has followed for a few years now. "In my opinion, whatever performance he has put up is because of the work he did two years back. Now, he is able to execute it," Singh told this daily.

"When you start something new, you don't get to see the results immediately. When you try a few things for two-three years, like after the U19 World Cup, he was signed by RR in the IPL but could not perform well. He was not happy. We practiced a lot since on cement wickets, hitting long sixes, to graduate him to the next level. We did a lot of experiments and later on, the process gave the results. Sometimes, players take a year or two to graduate from U19 to senior level. I feel the things he has been doing for a while are showing results now."

Among the up and coming star batters in Indian cricket, Jaiswal is among the few who have stolen the show across formats. Whether it is building an innings in red-ball cricket or playing cameos in T20s, the 21-year-old has done it all in the last year and half. That he has three first-class double centuries is proof of it. The method behind Jaiswal's success comes from a long-proven process which Singh had observed from the likes of former India cricketers Sachin Tendulkar and Wasim Jaffer years ago. "I worked with Wasim Jaffer. We used to practice together a lot when he was trying to make his India comeback in 2005. Sometimes I got to see Sachin practice as well. I have seen how they prepare for Test matches, even bowled to them in nets. When I coached Yashasvi, I used it all. The process I have seen, I felt if I prepared him in a similar way, he could go long way. And he responded. That is why you can see that he looks a very balanced cricketer in all formats." "In fact, I worked more on his will than skills. Because if you have skill and no will, you can't do much. When he came to me in 2013, he was a disturbed kid. I used to give him mental challenges to make him tough. Used to tell stories of success and failure. What makes you successful and what makes you fail and that it is your choice where you want to go. These things help mentally."

While it is not clear at this point whether he will make his debut in the first Test and if he does whether he will open the batting or walk in at No. 3, Singh believes that Jaiswal will be ready for whatever challenge that comes his way. If anything, he has more challenges off the field than on it. "The way he has played so far in all these years, he is used to handling these kinds of pressure. He is sorted and the names he has played with so far, the games in IPL, he has seen it all," Singh signed off.

US player Jessica Pegula returns the ball to Ukraine's Lesia Tsurenko | AFP

# Pegula cruises into Wimbledon quarters

**AGENCIES** @London

US FOURTH seed Jessica Pegula outclassed Ukraine's Lesia Tsurenko 6-1, 6-3 to reach the Wimbledon quarter-finals for the first time on Sunday. Pegula raced into a 5-0 lead on No. 1 Court, as her unseeded opponent struggled to get a foothold in the match.

Tsurenko, 34, eventually got on the board but it only delayed the inevitable as the 29-year-old American wrapped up the first set in 27 minutes. Ruthless Pegula broke again immediately at the start of the second set, repeating the feat to take a 4-1 lead.

She was held up by a battling Tsurenko, who broke Pegula's serve despite requiring treatment for an apparent blister on her foot.

But it was only a temporary blip as Pegula broke again to seal the win. She will face former French Open runner-up Marketa Vondrousova, who reached the quarter-finals for the first time on Sunday with a three-set win over Czech compatriot Marie Bouzkova. World number 42 Vondrousova came through 2-6, 6-4, 6-3 on the back of 37 winners and 44 unforced errors. It will be Vondrousova's first appearance in the last eight of a major since reaching the French Open final in 2019 where she was defeated by Ashleigh Barty.

DID YOU KNOW?

WIMBLEDON TRIVIA

***In 2015 Martina Hingis won*** Women's doubles with Sania Mirza and Mixed doubles with Leander Paes at Wimbledon

2015

**SELECT RESULTS**

**Men: Rd 3:** Grigor Dimitrov (BUL x21) bt Frances Tiafoe (USA x10) 6-2, 6-3, 6-2; **Rd 4:** Jannik Sinner (ITA x8) bt Daniel Elahi Galan (COL) 7-6 (7/4), 6-4, 6-3; Roman Safiullin bt Denis Shapovalov (CAN x26) 3-6, 6-3, 6-1, 6-3; Andrey Rublev (x7) bt Alexander Bublik (KAZ x23) 7-5, 6-3, 6-7 (6/8), 6-7 (5/7), 6-4; **Women: Rd 3:** Mirra Andreeva bt Anastasia Potapova (x22) 6-2, 7-5; **Rd 4:** Jessica Pegula (USA x4) bt Lesia Tsurenko (UKR) 6-1, 6-3; Marketa Vondrousova (CZE) bt Marie Bouzkova (CZE x32) 2-6, 6-4, 6-3.

# Anantapur fields to India debut: All-rounder Anusha's fairytale ride

**KALYANI MANGALE** @Chennai

(L) Anusha Bareddy recieves Indian cap from captain Harmanpreet Kaur. Her parents in Bandlapalli village, Anantpur

THE Bareddy household in the Bandlapalli village of the Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh was buzzing on Sunday. It was a momentous day for them as their daughter, Anusha, made her international debut for India in Mirpur, Bangladesh. After watching their daughter's bowling on the mobile screen (it was streaming on youtube), her parents, B. Lakshmi Devi and B. Malli Reddy, couldn't just sit and relish the occasion. They had to go for their daily wage job in a farm. Their jobs may be humble but they never let it come their way while supporting their daughter Anusha to pursue her dreams.

"We had goosebumps when we saw her get the cap. But we had to go for our job because it is our main source of income," Anusha's father told this daily. For them, supporting Anusha in whatever way they could was their primary objective. Being a girl child was never a problem. "We have always supported her. Even if she gets selected to represent her country or not we will continue to support her." Given the costs involved in cricket and their financial condition, the family is grateful to the Rural Development Trust, run by Anne Ferrer, for helping her out. "It's possible for her to play cricket because of the RDT. They are sponsoring her education, stay, and food. Their help is the biggest support."

It all started for the all-rounder when her school PE Teacher, Ravi Kumar, introduced her to cricket in 2014. She then participated in a rural cricket tournament organised by the Anantapur Sports Academy and won the 'Best Player' of the tournament award. That helped her get selected for the ASA Cricket Academy. In the Academy, she started training with the boys. Yugandhar Reddy, Cricket Coordinator at the ASA, believes that was necessary for Anusha.

"We used to attend fielding and bowling sessions with boys in Anantapur. We thought if she can positively compete with the boys, she can also compete with the girls." The professional fielding drills from an early age helped the Andhra player when she started playing age-group cricket for the South Zone under the guidance of Srinivas Reddy. "In 2016, she played for the selection of U-16 for Andhra Pradesh. I saw her for the first time then. At that time she was a left-arm medium pacer. Her height was around 5'4 but she used to swing the ball. And the best part was her fielding," he recollects.

In the 2018-19 season, Srinivas Reddy took a calculated decision to change Anusha's bowling style. "As a medium pacer, to get a good bounce and pace, you need a good height. But I didn't see any growth for her with medium pace. She was always a good fielder who could bat in death overs. Then I thought, if we switch from pace to spin, it will be useful for her."

"At that time Andhra Pradesh also needed a left-arm spinner. We thought it will be useful for the team and for her individual growth as well," the veteran coach who helped Anjali Sarvani and Meghana Sabbineni unearth their potential added.

The switch to the bowling style came in handy for Anusha as she found herself on the senior side after the change. In the Inter-Zonal one-day tournament earlier this year, against the West Zone, she finished with four wickets in the first match. Those performances propelled her for the India call-up as expected by her coach, who wants to bring out more from the young player.

"We did expect it (the selection). During the domestic season for the South Zone, she impressed the selectors. We have worked on her batting as well. Now everybody is focusing on the batting. As a coach, I would prefer picking an all-rounder who can bat in the death overs. For the last three years, she has worked on her batting and she hitting the ball very well with good running between the wickets," he said.

Before heading to Bangladesh, Anusha got the opportunity to put on the Indian jersey in the Emerging Teams Asia Cup in Hong Kong. The Indian team could only play two matches in the tournament due to rain and unfavorable weather conditions, but Srinivas Reddy thinks that experience was vital for her.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Bangladesh 114/5 in 20 ovs (Shorna 28; Pooja 1/16) **lost to** India 118 for 3 in 16.2 overs (Harmanpreet Kaur 54 not out; Sultana Khatun 2/25).

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

### Archer Priyansh becomes world U-21 champion

LIMERICK (IRELAND): India's Priyansh became under-21 world champion in compound archery, as the country's medal tally swelled to nine medals, including five golds. Priyansh defeated Aljaz Brenk of Slovenia 147-141 in the men's U-21 individual final at the World Archery Youth Championships here on Saturday. Earlier, Aditi Swami had bagged the women's Under-18 title.

### Verstappen takes 6th F1 victory in a row

SILVERSTONE: Max Verstappen recovered from a slow start to win the British Grand Prix on Sunday for his sixth Formula One win in a row as Lando Norris held off fellow British driver Lewis Hamilton in a thrilling battle for second. Red Bull has won all 10 races this year.

### Anand, Gukesh tied 6th after nine games

ZAGREB: Indian players Viswanathan Anand and young GM D Gukesh slipped on the first day of the Blitz segment in the 2023 SuperUnited Rapid and Blitz tournament, part of the Grand Chess Tour. The India duo of Anand and Gukesh in tied sixth place with 13 points.

# Vinesh unlikely if trials held by July 22

**FIROZ MIRZA** @Chennai

TWO-TIME World Championships medallist Vinesh Phogat is unlikely to attend Asian Games selection trials if the ad-hoc committee decides to hold them before the deadline as has been extended by the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA). As per the relaxation given by the OCA, the trials to pick the wrestling team have to be conducted latest by July 22 and the final entries have to be sent the next day (July 23). "Vinesh will leave for Budapest, Hungary to compete in the Polyak Imre & Varga Janos Memorial Ranking Series scheduled from July 13 to 16. She will then train there before returning to the country for the selection trials," Om Prakash Dahiya, Vinesh's childhood coach, told this daily.

Notably, the foreign training camps of Vinesh and Olympic medallist Bajrang Punia have been cleared under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) by the government. Bajrang had already left the country for Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan for 36 days training camp along with his sparring partner Jitender Kinha, coach Sujeet Maan, physiotherapist Anuj Gupta and strength and conditioning expert Kaazi Hasan. Vinesh too was supposed to first head out to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan for seven days of training in the first week of July but visa issues forced her to drop the plan.

Dahiya said confidently that the deadline would be extended or two trials will be held to accommodate wrestlers, who had launched a protest against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) sidelined chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. "She will compete in the second trials, which will be held once they are back from foreign training camp," Dahiya said. Vinesh competes in 53kg, which is an Olympic weight category but she is scheduled to participate in the 55kg at the Hungary Ranking Series. The coach said the weight category can be changed before the draw.

**Sarita may skip Ranking Series for selection trials**

As many four Indian wrestlers including Vinesh are scheduled to compete in Hungary. Sarita Mor (59kg), freestyle wrestler Sujeet (65kg) and Greco-Roman grappler Sunil Kumar (87kg) are others from the country whose names have been sent for the event. Sarita, however, will skip the tournament if the trial is scheduled before July 25. "She will not compete if the trials are held before July 25," Rahul Maan, Sarita's husband, told this daily.

Speaking on the possibility of two trials, Rahul said, "Only one trial should be held. Either you hold the trials this month or push them till next month but it should be conducted once."

Full story: newindianexpress.com

## Asiad chess team announced

INDIA will send a strong 10-member chess contingent, including double gold medallist Koneru Humpy and bronze medallist Dronavalli Harika, for the Asian Games scheduled to commence in Hangzhou on September 23. Vidit Gujrathi and young Arjun Erigaisi in men's and Humpy and Harika in women's section will compete in the individual categories. The men's team comprises Grandmasters D Gukesh, Gujrathi, Erigaisi, P Harikrishna and R Praggnanandhaa. In the women's section, Humpy, Harika, R Vaishali, Vantika Aggarwal and Savitha Shri will participate in the team event. All the players are coming off a gruelling Global Chess League, where they faced top-notch competition from some of the greatest chess players in the world. The announcement was made on Sunday during the General Body meeting of the All India Chess Federation (AICF) in Kanpur.

SQUAD

**Men:** D Gukesh, Vidit Gujrathi, Arjun Erigaisi, P Harikrishna and R Praggnanandhaa.
**Women:** Koneru Humpy, D. Harika, R Vaishali, Vantika Aggarwal and Savitha Shri.

ASHES

# *England pull off another Headingley heist to keep series alive*

**AGENCIES** @Leeds

Mark Wood (R) and Chris Woakes celebrate England's victory at Leeds | AFP

ENGLAND kept their Ashes hopes alive on Sunday as Harry Brook made an impressive 75 before the recalled duo of Chris Woakes and Mark Wood completed a thrilling three-wicket win over Australia in the third Test at Headingley. The hosts' victory reduced Australia's lead in the series to 2-1 with two Tests to play.

England were struggling at 171-6 -- still needing 80 more runs to reach a target of 251 – after Mitchell Starc had removed skipper Ben Stokes and Jonny Bairstow in quick succession after lunch on the fourth day. It was then that Brook was joined by Woakes, playing his first Test since March last year. But with Australia eyeing a win that would have given them a first Ashes series success in England in 22 years, Brook and Woakes shared a stand of 59 that took the hosts to the brink of victory.

The situation was as much a test of Brook's sometimes fallible temperament as his undeniable talent. But it was one the 24-year-old, in just his 10th Test, passed for the most part on his Yorkshire home ground. There was, however, a further twist when Brook fell for 75, skying Starc (5-78) to Australia captain Pat Cummins, who nearly collided with the bowler as he took the catch at mid-off.

England still required 21 to win but fast bowler Wood, fresh from his quickfire 24 in the first innings, got the target down to 12 when he hooked Cummins for six. Player-of-the-match Wood, who took 5-34 in Australia's first innings, then carved Starc for four in the manner of a top-order batter. Woakes then blazed Starc through point for the winning boundary to finish on 32 not out, with Wood unbeaten on 16. "It is absolutely too soon for all-rounder status!" Wood joked. "I'm happy down at number nine. I think that is too high and any higher I'm definitely getting a nose bleed."

England now have a chance to become just the second team to win a Test series from 2-0 down after the 1936/37 Australia side, inspired by batting great Don Bradman, that won an Ashes 3-2. "No hesitation," said Stokes when asked if England can win the series. "It's nice to get over the line in this one and keep our hopes alive."

**BRIEF SCORES:** Australia 263 & 224 **lost to** England 237 & 254-7 in 50 ovs (H Brook 75; M Starc 5-78)

# Unbeaten Sri Lanka win 2023 World Cup Qualifiers

**AGENCIES** @Harare

SRI LANKA'S tremendous form in one-day format continued as they crushed the Netherlands by a huge margin of 128 runs in the finals to emerge as winners of the 2023 Cricket World Cup Qualifier on Sunday. This was Sri Lanka's 10th consecutive ODI win.

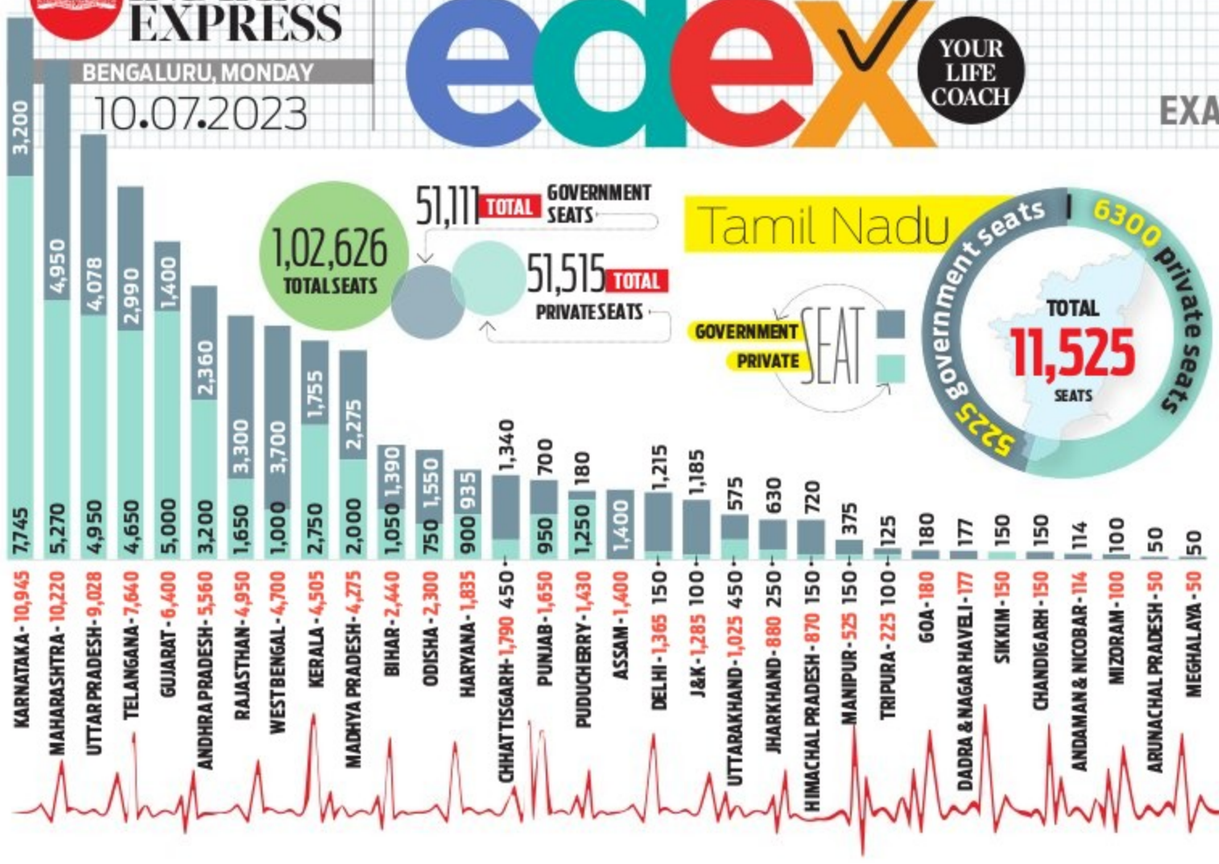
While the two teams had already qualified for the 50-over World Cup to be held in India from October 5 to November 19 later this year, Sri Lanka will play the tournament as Qualifier 2 and the Netherlands as Qualifier 1 in the mega event. Sent in to bat, Sri Lanka could manage a moderate 233 in 47.5 overs and in their reply, the Netherlands were bowled out for a mere 105 in 23.3 overs.

Sri Lanka batters got starts but failed to convert, barring No 4 batter Sahan Arachchige, who scored a fine 57.

For the Netherlands, Max O'Dowd's 33 was the highlight as none of their batters could pose any challenge to the rampant Sri Lankan bowlers.

Sri Lanka players celebrate their title triumph in Harare, Zimbabwe | ICC

**BRIEF SCORES:** Sri Lanka 233 in 47.5 ovs (Mendis 43, Arachchige 57, Asalanka 36; Vikramjit 2/12) bt Netherlands 105 in 23.3 ovs (O'Dowd 33; Madushanka 3/18, Theekshana 4/31, Hasaranga 2/35).


KARNATAKA - 10,945 3,200 7,745
MAHARASHTRA - 10,220 4,950 5,270
UTTAR PRADESH - 9,028 4,078 4,950
TELANGANA - 7,640 2,990 4,650
GUJARAT - 6,400 1,400 5,000
ANDHRA PRADESH - 5,560 2,360 3,200
RAJASTHAN - 4,950 3,300 1,650
WEST BENGAL - 4,700 3,700 1,000
KERALA - 4,505 1,755 2,750
MADHYA PRADESH - 4,275 2,275 2,000
BIHAR - 2,440 1,390 1,050
ODISHA - 2,300 1,550 750
HARYANA - 1,835 935 900
CHHATTISGARH - 1,790 1,340 450
PUNJAB - 1,650 700 950
PUDUCHERRY - 1,430 180 1,250
ASSAM - 1,400 1,400
DELHI - 1,365 1,215 150
J&K - 1,285 1,185 100
UTTARAKHAND - 1,025 575 450
JHARKHAND - 880 630 250
HIMACHAL PRADESH - 870 720 150
MANIPUR - 525 375 150
TRIPURA - 225 125 100
GOA - 180 180
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI - 177 177
SIKKIM - 150 150
CHANDIGARH - 150 150
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR - 114 114
MIZORAM - 100 100
ARUNACHAL PRADESH - 50 50
MEGHALAYA - 50 50
1,02,626 TOTAL SEATS
51,111 TOTAL GOVERNMENT SEATS
51,515 TOTAL PRIVATE SEATS
Tamil Nadu
GOVERNMENT
PRIVATE
SEAT
6300 private seats
5225 government seats
TOTAL 11,525 SEATS

**AIIMS-MBBS CUT OFF** (STRAY VACANCY ROUND)

| Year | Category | NEET AIR (Marks) |
|---|---|---|
| 2022 | General | 11782 (623) |
| | EWS | 12350 (621) |
| | OBC | 16346 (610) |
| | SC | 104920 (474) |
| | ST | 120467 (456) |
| 2021 | General | 11261 (620) |
| | EWS | 12350 (617) |
| | OBC | 15436 (608) |
| | SC | 88195 (496) |
| | ST | 107630 (475) |
| 2020 | General | 15581 (610) |
| | EWS | 16140 (608) |
| | OBC | 16124 (608) |
| | SC | 82459 (505) |
| | ST | 100258 (483) |

# NUMBER TAKE

**AIQ (15% SEATS OF GOVERNMENT MEDICAL AND DENTAL COLLEGES) CUT-OFF**

| Year | Category | NEET MBBS - AIR(Marks) |
|---|---|---|
| 2022 | General | 22706 (569) |
| | EWS | 23501 (595) |
| | OBC | 22721 (596) |
| | SC | 122444 (454) |
| | ST | 153436 (423) |
| 2021 | General | 21227 (595) |
| | EWS | 21238 (595) |
| | OBC | 21188 (473) |
| | SC | 109310 (473) |
| | ST | 13083 (452) |
| 2020 | General | 15564 (610) |
| | EWS | 16140 (608) |
| | OBC | 16124 (608) |
| | SC | 82623 (505) |
| | ST | 100258 (484) |

(Complied from Aakash BYJU'S report. Aakash BYJU'S is not responsible for unknown errors)

# MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE: EXPERTS ON NAVIGATING NEET-UG COUNSELLING

Beyond ranks and marks, lies the complex process of counselling, which can be likened to an exam on its own. **Mrittika Banerjee** connects with experts to unravel this intricate process, enabling candidates to make an informed choice

As soon as the results of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test - Undergraduate (NEET UG) exams are announced, aspiring medical students across the country find themselves at a crucial crossroad — NEET UG counselling. This phase poses a daunting task for those aiming to secure a seat in the highly competitive world of medical admissions. Therefore, *EdexLive* has reached out to NEET experts, doctors, medical association representatives and others to unearth valuable insights regarding the complex counselling process, shedding light on the need for meticulous planning and informed decision-making.

### Foresight and flexibility

"Expect a rise in cut-off marks in the NEET UG counselling this year," declares Jayaprakash Gandhi, a career consultant and analyst with over two decades of experience.

According to Gandhi, students must approach their choices with the utmost care. "Know how to fill your choices, check fee structures and don't rely solely on previous preferences," he advises and adds, "Also, what is crucial is to always have a Plan B in mind."

Dr Karan Juneja, a member of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) Junior Doctors' Network (JDN) Standing Committee, echoes Gandhi's sentiment. "Don't take too many drops. Allied courses like Pharmacy and Biotechnology offer bright career opportunities," he asserts.

### Meticulous planning

The significance of meticulous preparation resonates strongly with Kapil Gupta, CEO of NEETPrep and a renowned career strategist, boasting an astounding 6.5 lakh followers on YouTube. Gupta stresses the criticality of having the required documents in place and finalising a strategic sequence of choices. "The rest are all speculations, you see. Do what is important on your part," he says.

To emphasise on the importance of careful decision-making, Gupta shares a cautionary tale about a student who missed an opportunity at Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi, due to a form-filling error. "Once the choice is made, there is no going back," he says. Gupta further suggests visiting colleges personally to gain firsthand experience and make well-informed decisions.

### Parallel choice filling

Dr Aviral Mathur, President of the Federation of Resident Doctors' Association (FORDA), advises students to consider previous trends while making their choice during the counselling process.

He recommends selecting the top national and state colleges parallelly. "The process is still online and not centralised and states will have their own counselling process," he says, adding, "When it comes to choice filling, select the top five colleges in India followed by the top three in the state and so on."

Acknowledging the complexities of the counselling process, Dr Mathur assures students patience is key. Drawing from his own experience he advises them to keep a registry and remain focused, stating, "Compare the overall performance of colleges: stratify where you want to go and be certain about it, and don't fill a place that you don't want to go."

### NExT exam — start looking at the bigger picture, students

On the other hand, Gaurav Tyagi, a NEET counsellor with 14 years of experience and a recipient of over 29 awards, provides another perspective on choosing the right college. While he highlights the significance of aligning one's choices with their NEET rank, Tyagi goes beyond and draws attention to what lies ahead — the National Exit Test (NExT). Recognising the critical role it plays, he cautions students against overlooking this bigger picture.

According to Tyagi, securing admission to a college with a strong academic foundation, substantial patient count and ample clinical exposure are crucial for excelling in the NExT examination.

### PG prospects and seats

When it comes to postgraduate (PG) opportunities, Kapil Gupta, also advises students to consider the availability of postgraduate (PG) seats while determining the optimal sequence. He recommends considering states like Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, as acquiring domicile quota from the state for undergraduate study can enhance future PG prospects.

On a similar note, Dr Juneja advises students not to limit themselves geographically. He urges them to analyse the number of medical colleges available in each state, as this can significantly impact their chances of securing a postgraduate (PG) admission with state quota.

**VITAL TIPS**

- Always avoid last-minute hassles
- Maintain a register
- Ensure that all your documents are in one place
- Fill college choices strategically
- Be open to moving geographically
- Have a Plan B

**POINTS TO CONSIDER FOR COLLEGE CHOICE**

- Fee structure
- Bond policy
- Patient count
- Clinical exposure
- Availability of PG seats

## Let's talk about bond policies

The Haryana bond policy has stirred up considerable controversy in the state. Although the policy has been amended from seven to five years, it continues to be a crucial factor in college selection within Haryana. This has raised scepticism, however, Dr Karan Juneja encourages students not to overlook the potential offered by medical colleges there. He assures aspiring medical students that colleges in Rohtak, Sonipat and other regions provide excellent education. Dr Aviral Mathur draws attention to the potential challenges and considerations associated with the bond policy, advising students to exercise caution when choosing colleges. "If you get stuck there for years, it could be a loss," he says

**Reputable private medical colleges**

Kasturba Medical College (KMC), Manipal

Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara (JSS) Medical College, Mysuru

Ramaiah Medical College, Bengaluru

med check

**PRIVATE VS GOVERNMENT COLLEGES: WHAT'S THE VERDICT, FOLKS?**

When it comes to education in India, especially medicine, the common perception often leans towards the pursuit of government colleges as the ultimate choice. However, Dr Juneja dispels the notion that only government colleges are superior. He cites several reputable private medical colleges such as Kasturba Medical College (KMC) Manipal, Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara (JSS) Medical College, Mysuru and Ramaiah Medical College, Bengaluru as prime examples of institutions that offer academic standards. "These are a few good private medical colleges, in fact way better than a few government colleges," he says

## Counselling Process: Results are out - what next?

**I. OVERVIEW**

- National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) is the only entrance examination for admission to various medical and dental courses in India
- It covers seats in MBBS (99,313), BDS (27,698), AYUSH (52,720), and BVSc & AH (603) programmes offered by 542 medical and 313 dental colleges
- NEET counselling is conducted in both online and offline modes, depending on the state and central authorities

**Online counselling:** Fill forms and go through the online procedure

**Offline counselling:** Report directly to the respective venues

**II. TYPES OF QUOTAS**

**A) ALL INDIA QUOTA (AIQ)**

- 15% of government seats and 100% seats in deemed/central universities, ESIC/AFMC, AIIMS, JIPMER, and BSc Nursing programmes
- Managed by Medical Counselling Committee
- If seats remain vacant after Round 2 of AIQ counselling, they will be returned to the states

**B) STATE QUOTA**

- 85% of government seats and 100% of private seats in the respective state
- Seats are managed by state authorities

**III. NEET COUNSELLING PROCESS**

**REGISTRATION/PAYMENT**

- Candidates must complete the MCC NEET registration process on time, including payment at mcc.nic.in
- General category candidates under AIQ pay `10,000 as security deposit and `1,000 as counselling fee. SC/ST candidates pay `5,000 as deposit and `500 for counselling
- For Deemed Universities, all category candidates must pay `2,00,000 as security fee and `5,000 for counselling
- The counselling process is conducted through the following four rounds

**ROUND 1**

- **Choice filling/locking:** Select preferred colleges and courses
- Documents are verified to ensure eligibility
- Based on choices and merit, seats are allocated
- Provisional result is declared
- Candidates report to the allotted institute
- Candidates can exercise the option for free entry/exit
- Free exit allows candidates who don't join assigned college in Round 1 to retain eligibility for further rounds without forfeiting deposit
- Result is published

**ROUND 2**

- **Fresh registration (if necessary):** Candidates not registered in Round 1 complete the registration process
- **Payment/Choice filling/Locking/Verification/Seat allotment:** Similar to Round 1
- Candidates must report to the allotted institute unless they choose to forfeit their security deposit by opting out. Once joined, candidates cannot vacate the seat in Round 2
- The result is published after reporting

**MOP-UP ROUND:**

- **Payment/Choice filling/Locking/Verification/Seat allotment:** Similar to previous rounds
- Candidates report to the allotted institute to complete the admission process
- Result is published

**STRAY VACANCY ROUND:**

- **Seat Allotment Process:** Seats are allocated based on availability
- Candidates report to the allotted institute for admission
- There will be no fresh registration of candidates in Final Stray Vacancy Round
- Final results are declared

**What was the timeline for NEET UG 2022 Counselling like last year?**

- **July 17:** NEET-UG date
- **Oct 4:** First three rounds counselling dates released
- **Oct 11 - 17:** Registration for Round 1
- **Oct 14 - 18:** Choice filling
- **Oct 17 - 18:** Document verification
- **Oct 21:** Merit list published
- **Oct 21 - 29:** Dates to report at institute
- **Nov 3 - 22:** Registration for Round 2
- **Nov 28 - Dec 2:** Mop-up Round registrations begin
- **Nov 29 - Dec 2:** Choice filling process
- **Dec 8:** Mop-up Round final results
- **Dec 8 - 13:** Institute reporting for Mop-up Round
- **Dec 24 28:** Stray Vacancy Round reporting

# Got an MBBS seat — great! Now, are you ready for the ride?

**Embarking on a medical education is one of the toughest experiences a student can face and that can stress them out. Abhipsa Mohanty speaks to experts to understand more**

A HUNDRED aspirants compete for a single medical seat in the present times. As the years pass by, the competition is rising and so is the craze for the Doctor prefix in one's name. The prestige and respect associated with the profession is doubtlessly attractive and is a major reason why so many students are up for the battle.

Another reason is the fire in the belly that 18-year-olds carry, to serve the nation and the enthusiasm to make it big in life. However, after the battle is fought, a seat has been secured and congratulations have poured in, reality slowly starts to sink in.

One has to think of the long journey which a medical career brings. It doesn't end but starts with MBBS, after which, a student has to go for an internship, postgraduation, specialty and so on. Nowadays, MBBS alone is not enough, and thus, the completion takes about 15-16 years, excluding the drop years, experts say.

### Sacrifices will need to be made

"One has to sacrifice youth, personal space and family time," says Dr Karthik Nagula, the immediate past president of Telangana Junior Doctors' Association (T-JUDA). He mentions that unless one is prepared to make the sacrifices, one will find the MBBS course highly depressing. Alisha Lakhani from Shantabaa Medical College in Amreli, Gujarat, and National Zonal Coordinator, Indian Medical Association's Medical Students' Network (IMA-MSN) says, "One thinks that life is fun and easy in a college, where one can enjoy a lot of extracurriculars. But medical college is not like that. Even passing an exam becomes a great challenge."

**SOUND ADVICE FROM A MEDICAL EXPERT**

Dr Sharad Agarwal, National President of IMA HQ adds, "Coaching culture has sadly evolved nowadays, which pressurises students to prepare for NEET PG right from the second or third year of MBBS. This becomes an unnecessary burden for students and should be avoided. What one learns during MBBS and the subsequent internship is the basic foundation. It wouldn't do to lose focus from it"

Since it is mostly the top brass of a class who opt for MBBS, the course is filled with heavy competition.

Dr Rishiraj Sinha, National Executive Member, Federation of All India Medical Doctors' Association (FAIMA). "There is pressure of attending classes and practicals as well. One has to maintain 75 per cent attendance in theory and 85 per cent in practicals," he adds.

### 19 subjects to prepare for

road ahead

Coping with a few subjects in schools to coping with 19 subjects in MBBS can also be overwhelming for students. "In MBBS, starting from Day One, students have to attend 12-hour sessions. Mugging up lectures will no longer help and they have to focus more on self-study," explains Dr Sharad Agarwal, National President of IMA HQ. "About 50 per cent of MBBS students fail in some or the other subject," Alisha mentions.

The picture doesn't get any better post-MBBS, as NEET PG has its own share of challenges. Heavy patient load, long working hours and lack of basic facilities in hospitals tend to trigger depression among doctors. The news of harassment and assault on doctors makes it worse, implying that the respect doctors command has pitifully declined.

Is the medical profession not the gold it appears to be, then? Dr Lakshya Mittal, Vice-President of the United Doctors' Front Association (UDFA) mentions that all the pressure and burnout one faces vanishes if a student has joined MBBS just for serving people.

Moreover, one gets to meet a variety of people while pursuing MBBS and the mingling helps to combat the pressure, says Dr Sinha.

In addition to the obvious dedication and hard work that one has to put in, being kind, humble and respectful to all, including faculty, seniors and patients, is vital, they say.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

# Bengaluru Express

READ SHARE FOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
Mail us: bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

10.07.2023
MONDAY

**DAY'S DIARY**

## *Telstar 1 launched*

Telster 1, the first satellite to transmit live television signals and telephone conversations across Atlantic Ocean, was launched on this day in 1962

**PURPOSE**

The satellite was used to test basic features of communications via space. Telstar enabled the first transatlantic television transmission, linking the United States and France

**FIRST IMAGES**

The first images included those of President John F Kennedy, the American flag waving, sporting events, and a still of Mount Rushmore

**END OF OPERATIONS**

It operated until November 1962, when its on-board electronics failed due to the effects of radiation. During its course it facilitated over 400 transmissions

*Check out the events happening in the city*

PG 2

# 'I FEEL THE BENGALURU AUDIENCE HAS IMPROVED OVER TIME'

Veteran comedian Papa CJ, who was in the city recently, speaks about his upcoming books, his early experiences of doing standup in India and the evolving Bengaluru audience

**TUNIR BISWAS**

PAPA CJ is on a writing roll. The veteran comedian, who is in the 19th year of his comedy career, is working on three books right now. "The first book that will be out will be a republishing of my book *Naked,* since I got the rights back when my previous publisher shut down. The second is a book on entrepreneurship. The third draws on life and business lessons from a career in standup comedy," shares CJ, who was in Bengaluru recently.

Regarding the writing process, he elaborates, "I write books like I write comedy routines. I have post-it notes of all the content I'd like to have in the book (like jokes). Some of them naturally fit together and are placed in a logical sequence. They become chapters (like routines or 'bits' as we call them in comedy). Then the chapters are put in a logical order, and appropriate segues are created. And you have a big finish. That's your show right there!"

It was in October of 2004 when CJ began doing standup comedy professionally, after having his start in the United Kingdom, CJ travelled to India and had an interesting encounter with a lady. "I started in the UK and did 700 gigs over three years before moving back to India. I did two multi-city tours in India in 2008 and then launched the English-language comedy circuit in Delhi in the first half of 2009. Starting up in India was interesting at that time. I remember meeting an aunt who said, "Son, what do you do?" I replied, "I tell jokes, aunty, I'm a comedian." To which she responded, "Son, I also tell jokes. What do you do for a living?" he recalls.

The veteran comedian mentions that his primary influences have been the UK headliners with whom he has worked on the live stage. "I've spent over 2000 hours in cars with comedians and seen how they have prepared for their shows, how they have worked in difficult rooms with diverse audiences, and how they have analysed their sets afterwards. I've also begged them to watch my set and give me feedback, and learned from the same. I'm not a huge fan of watching comedy on screen. It's best enjoyed live," he says.

Regarding the state of comedy in India, CJ says it's all part of the evolution. "Audiences evolve. Comedians evolve. We have access to standup comedy from across the world in the palm of our hand and expect comedians in India in a nascent comedy scene, who started performing last Monday, to live up to the standards we see from comedians who have been performing for 20 years in an industry that has been around for over 50 years. That is not a reasonable expectation. So my advice to Indian audiences is to be patient, and if you don't like what you see, don't laugh. That is what will force the comedian to raise his or her game. Unless, of course, you are replaced by another audience who laughs at what he or she is currently doing," says CJ, who recently hosted EazyDiner Foodie awards.

Before leaving, CJ shows love towards his fans in Bengaluru. "I've always loved performing in this city and I feel the audience has improved over time. A decade ago, Bengaluru had two kinds of audiences. One that laughed at everything and another that gave you nothing and made you want to cry. Over time, the latter has gotten familiar and fond of the art form, and that saves performers from including a box of tissues in their technical," CJ concludes, who is also working on a lot of customised corporate training and coaching, incorporating humour into them in a major way.

*A decade ago, Bengaluru had two kinds of audiences. One that laughed at everything and another that gave you nothing and made you want to cry. Over time, the latter has gotten familiar and fond of the art form, and that saves performers from including a box of tissues in their technical*

Papa CJ, comedian

# This food tech entrepreneur, who failed to get funding on *Shark Tank India,* has not only found investors elsewhere but believes that the show needs Sharks with more diverse business experience

# 'On2' the Future

**DESE GOWDA**

THE investors at *Shark Tank* are all B2C experts, they are good at selling imported products under ₹3k to new consumers in tier two and tier three cities. It forms all of their core businesses. But they're not experienced with innovation. One of them even asked me what 'induction' is," says **Sanandhan Sudhir**, founder of On2Cook, a food tech startup that sells a smart cooking device which promises to drastically cut down cooking time and make the process easier.

As a contestant on *Season 1 of Shark Tank India*, Sudhir sought ₹1 crore in investment from the Sharks in exchange for one per cent equity in his company. But despite his best efforts, the Sharks weren't convinced of the product that Sudhir had pitched them. But within months of the episode's airing in early 2022, his start-up managed to get funded at the same valuation from a private angel investor.

More than six months later, On2Cook has moved past the prototype phase and has started to sell its products to enterprise customers and cloud kitchens.

For nearly 10 years between the late '90s and the early '00s, Sudhir worked with GE Healthcare in Bengaluru, working on product development. It was at that time that he got the idea for a microwave cum stove that would eventually lead him to found On2Cook. After spending a decade prototyping the product with his own money, Sudhir finally found investors for his product in Hong Kong. But in recent years, amid strained Indo-Sino relations, he had to give up on that venture and start all over again in India. It was at that point he went on *Shark Tank*, hopeful of getting seed capital to start production on the product.

Sudhir believes that, unlike Western editions of the show, *Shark Tank India* features investors from a very specific business arena. "They should have at least one or two sharks, who are from the product business. How can anyone in B2C business understand the product business?" he wonders.

However, when asked about the recent controversy that the show has found itself in, with some contestants claiming that on-air promises of funding weren't fulfilled, Sudhir comes to the show's defence.

"Not everyone gets funded as promised on the show. One of the key reasons for that is sometimes the finances of the business might not hold up to the claims that the promoters might make at the show. Both the contestants and the Sharks sign contracts before the show, agreeing to fulfil whatever is promised on the show. While it's not legally binding, the Sharks cannot just make promises willy-nilly and not go through with them," he adds.

Currently, On2Cook has received patents for its product in the United States, United Kingdom and India, with patents pending in 30 more countries. Currently focused on selling to cloud kitchens, Sudhir hopes that soon On2Cook can sell directly to consumers, particularly younger, urban consumers who are increasingly reliant on food-delivery apps.

GRUB HUB

**Aslam Gafoor** (@aslamgafoor) is a hospitality professional with experience in business development, sales and marketing with well-known hotels, and food and beverage companies. A few of his passions are travel, food and wine, and he enjoys sharing these experiences as a columnist.

**THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY**

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The first prize winner will win a discount voucher worth ₹2,500 from Tiger Trail, Royal Orchid Hotel, Old Airport Road**

**THE RIGHT ANSWERS**

**1) Patot Diya 2) Eggplant 3)Absinthe**

**FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT**

1) Niveditha B N 2) A M Bhat 3) Pratap Reddy

This upcoming book by a city-based 17-year-old author delves into philosophical themes that challenge traditional notions of reality, morality and the human condition

# 'Lad'en with Ideas

**EXPRESS FEATURES**

IN an era dominated by traditional narratives and conformist thinking, an upcoming non-fiction book challenges the status quo. Penned by a city-based high school student, **Karan Lad**, *A Glitch in the Simulation* (SPARK; ₹175), poses tricky questions about our sense of reality, religion, morality and more.

The 17-year-old Lad, the son of former minister Santosh Lad, was first introduced to philosophy through David Fincher's 1999 cult hit *Fight Club*. "I always thought differently compared to the kids around me or even some adults. As I grew up, I could not help but feel something was missing from my life or why I do not feel the kind of happiness the other kids do. Then I came across *Fight Club* which completely changed all ideas I had about everything. I later researched more about the philosophy and slowly got into it," Lad adds.

Apart from German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, whose works heavily influenced Lad, thinkers such as Arthur Schopenhauer, Niccolo Machiavelli, and Marcus Aurelius, among others also provided brain fodder for Lad's quest for a better worldview.

But as a young author, he doesn't expect his work to have any meaningful impact on the world. "I do not consider myself as someone who is out to make any impact on the literary field, my passion and main goal since childhood have been movies. I love storytelling and I have always wanted to write, direct and act in movies. Philosophy is something that made me realise my true identity," he adds.

In the book, Lad attempts to build upon various ideas of acclaimed thinkers of the past, while analysing them from a modern context. Lad's age and perspective as a student also provide a unique lens. One of the intriguing chapters in Lad's book is titled The Death of God. He explores Nietzsche's concept, highlighting the impact of modern science and technology on faith and meaning. "The Death of God is basically the death of all meaning; it is more of a warning that we must either overcome the need for God or be annihilated by nihilism. For me, I see modern society as a decadent and degenerative one. I just see herds of people stuck in the cycle of life, they are unthinking and unfeeling," he explains.

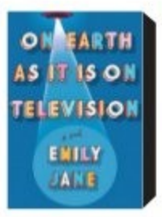
Another chapter, titled Modern Life and the Simulation delves into the increasing influence of technology on our lives and the detachment it fosters. "Struggle is fundamental for human existence and the root of all that is valuable or meaningful in life. Technology eliminates struggle; therefore, it eliminates meaning. I have strong thoughts about equality, and I feel technology is one such promoter of equality, which promotes conformity and makes everyone lazy," he shares.

# BOOK NOOK

## Fatima Tate Takes the Cake

**By Khadijah VanBrakle**

Fatima Tate aspires to be a baker, against the wishes of her parents. Fatima leads a typical life, going on long drives with her best friend Zaynab, attending mosque services. A student named Raheem causes everything to change for the better.



## On Earth as It Is on Television

**By Emily Jane**

In Emily Jane's rollicking and hilarious debut novel, where spaceships seem to arrive and then depart suddenly without a word, the certainty that we are not alone in the universe turns to intense uncertainty as to our place within it.

## She Started It

**By Sian Gilbert**

As children, Esther, Tanya, Chloe, and Annabel were great friends. Their common secrets kept them together for better or worse, despite growing apart as adults. One day, they get an (though not entirely unwanted) invitation from another old buddy.

## Things You Wanted To Say But Never Did

**By Geloy Conception**

What were the things you intended to say but didn't? This question was posted on Instagram by the artist Geloy Concepcion, who then posted the responses with his thought-provoking artwork. This insightful guided diary serves as a reminder that we are not alone.

# WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

## Sing Along

Let loose and sing your heart out with friends or family at this karaoke night.

**WHEN:** July 11, 5pm
**WHERE:** Marcopolo Cafe, Koramangla
**CALL:** 08042068333

## Feast for the Senses

Experience the Bengali fusion cuisine made by Chef Gaurav Paul bringing the rich flavours of Kolkata to Bengaluru.

**WHEN:** Every Saturday, 11.30pm
**WHERE:** Hilton Bengaluru Embassy Golf Links, Off Intermediate Ring Road
**CALL:** 7353759831

## Laughter Riot

Enjoy a day filled with laughter with local comedians Anand Rathnam, Somnath Padhy, Jooteen Patro and many more.
**WHEN:** July 10, 8pm **WHERE:** Bistro Claytopia, Koramangala **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

## TRAVEL STORIES

Join travel lovers and share your stories of adventure. Also stand a chance at winning a small prize.
**WHEN:** July 11, 7pm **WHERE:** Small Word: S.T. Bed, Koramangala **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

## BEGINNING TO AN END

Spend your evening enjoying 'Endings', a play that will have you thinking about the hard hitting truths of life leaving you happy but challenged, amazed yet involved, thoughtful yet puzzled.
**WHEN:** July 11, 7.30pm
**WHERE:** Ranga Shankara, J.P. Nagar
**DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

## BEFORE CHILDREN, AFTER DIAPERS

This standup comedy show explores how motherhood changes the meanings of words and the world.
**WHEN:** July 16, 7.30pm
**WHERE:** Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield
**DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

## DANCE FEST

Join these dance classes for all age groups by choreographer Shiamak Davar group and learn multiple dance styles to your liking. **WHEN:** July 10, 5.30pm **WHERE:** 4th Station Gym, Basaveshwar Nagar **CALL:** 08041317661

## SHINING BRIGHT

(Clockwise) Vinod Hayagriv, Director of C. Krishniah Chetty Group Of Jewellers and his wife; models displaying jewellery collection; Kamakshi Devi Wadiyar and Darshika Wadiyar from the erstwhile Mysuru royal family and author Manu Pillai at the launch of Crystal Museum Salon, held on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

# QUICK FIX

## DEEP FRIED OREOS

Contributed by **Pooja Rajasekaran**, Kanyakumari

### INGREDIENTS

- **Baking powder:** 1 tsp
- **Vanilla essence:** ¼ cup
- **Sunflower oil:** As required
- **Maida:** 1 cup
- **Icing sugar:** 1 tsp
- **Eggs:** 1
- **Milk:** 3/4 cup
- **Sugar:** 2 tbsp
- **Oreo biscuit:** 10

### METHOD

- Combine the flour, sugar, and baking powder. Add the milk and eggs, vanilla essence and whisk into a smooth and thick batter.
- Heat oil for frying. Dip the oreos in this batter and deep fry until golden colour.
- Sprinkle some icing sugar on top of the fried oreos as needed.

## What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

# FIT BIT

## VIPARITA NAMASKAR SUKHASANA
(REVERSE PRAYER EASY POSE)

**This yoga pose is a variation of the Tadasana. Viparita denotes the 'behind, opposite or reverse' and Namaskar is 'giving respect'. In Viparita Namaskarasana, you join your hands behind your back, so that's why this asana is reverse prayer pose.**

### STEPS

- Start in the sitting pose of Sukhasana (Easy Pose) with your legs together. Keep a one-inch distance between your feet. Sit straight with legs stretched out in the front.
- Bend the left leg and place left foot beneath the right thigh.
- Bend the right leg and place right foot beneath the left thigh.
- Rest the outer edge of feet on the floor.
- Head, neck and spine must be erect.
- Lift your hands parallel to your shoulders.
- Place your hands behind your back and keep finger pointing downwards.
- Inhale. Turn your fingertips inward towards your spine and try to join your palms together. Turn your fingertips upwards in Namaskar pose.
- Keep the palms pressed together. Close your eyes and focus your mind on the word Om.
- Hold the position for 25 to 35 seconds.
- Slowly turn down your fingertips, gently bring hands to sides of knees or thighs, preferably with a mudra. Repeat this 3-5 times.
- Return to the starting pose. Relax.

### BENEFITS

- Opens up your chest and maintains energy levels and metabolism.
- Benefits people who are suffering from CTS (Carpal tunnel syndrome) and wrist pain. Strengthens your wrist tendons.
- If your work is involves typing, then this pose is best for you.
- Activates acupuncture points.
- Benefits shoulder and neck pain, relaxes your shoulder blades and loosens your tight muscles of the shoulder.
- Alleviates stress and calms your anxious mind.
- Relaxes your mind, body, and soul.
- Opens the abdomen and improves the lung function.
- Calms the mind.
- Helps to build confidence.
- Improves flexibility in the shoulders, arms, chest and back
- Relieves mild depression and anxiety.
- Relaxes your shoulder blades and loosens your tight muscles of the shoulder.
- Increases flexibility of forearms and wrists.

### LIMITATIONS

Those with elbow injury or weak ankles or knees, sciatica or severe back pain should avoid this.

People with low blood pressure or who suffer from insomnia or headaches should avoid prolonged time.

**By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai**

# NOW STREAMING

## REGIONAL

### GOOD NIGHT (Tamil)

A simple boy-next-door's biggest problem in life is his snoring. He falls in love with a girl and how the couple overcomes his sleeping problem while living together

**Cast:** K Manikandan, Meetha Raghunath, Raichal Rabecca Philip, Balaji Sakthivel

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

### SWEET KAARAM COFFEE (Tamil, series)

Three women of different generations living in the same house, attempt for once, to put themselves ahead of the people they are bound by

**Cast:** Lakshmi, Madhoo, Samthy

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

### 1B71 (Hindi)

A two-front war between Indian intelligence agencies and the Pakistani establishment. **Cast:** Vidyut Jammwal, Niharica Raizada, Vishal Jethwa, Anupam Kher

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

### BLIND (Hindi)

When a twist of fate leaves Gia blind, she must summon every ounce of courage to rebuild her life. But when she becomes the sole witness to a heinous crime, she unwittingly enters a deadly game of cat and mouse with a dangerous criminal

**Cast:** Sonam Kapoor, Purab Kohli, Vinay Pathak, Lillete Dubey, Shubham Saraf, Lucy Aarden, Javed Khan

- **Watch on:** Jio Cinemas

### TARLA (Hindi)

A story based on India's famous home chef Tarla Dalal, it gives the audience a peek into the life of the chef who manages to achieve various feats in the cooking field which includes having her own cookbook and cookery show.

**Cast:** Huma Qureshi, Sharib Hashmi, Veenah Naair, Bharti Achrekar

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

*All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.*

### ADHURA (Hindi, series)

A supernatural thriller set in an elite boarding school with a secret so dark, it will shake up the lives of everyone connected to it.

**Cast:** Rasika Dugal, Ishwak Singh, Shrenik Arora

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

### ARCHIE'R GALLERY (Bengali)

Archie, a young engineer, lives in Kolkata with his father Amulya. Archie enjoys the notion of old-school romance. Soon he meets a girl who is trying to teach a beggar kid how to sign her name. After she disappears, Amulya encourages Archie to find her. She turns out to be his colleague. But does old-school romance stand a chance in today's world?

**Cast:** Rajatabha Dutta, Pamela Kanjilal, Bonny Sengupta, Ayoshi Talukdar

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

## FOREIGN

### THE LINCOLN LAWYER (English, series)

After achieving huge success in court at the end of the first season, Mickey is kind of famous and has his choice of high-profile cases. But success brings a lot of bad stuff as well if not known how to handle it.

**Cast:** Manuel Garcia, Becki Newton, Angus Sampson, Jazz Raycole, Neve Campbell, Krista Warner

- **Watch on:** Netflix

### THE POPE'S EXORCIST (English)

Follow Gabriele Amorth, the Vatican's leading exorcist, as he investigates the possession of a child and uncovers a conspiracy the Vatican has tried to keep secret.

**Cast:** Russell Crowe, Daniel Zovatto, Alex Essoe

- **Watch on:** Netflix

### BABYLON (English)

A tale of outsized ambition and outrageous excess, it traces the rise and fall of multiple characters during an era of unbridled decadence and depravity in early Hollywood.

**Cast:** Brad Pitt, Margot Robbie, Diego Calva, Jean Smart, Jovan Adepo

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

### THE OUT-LAWS (English)

A straight-laced bank manager about to marry the love of his life. When his bank is held up by infamous Ghost Bandits during his wedding week, he believes his future in-laws who just arrived in town, are the infamous out-laws.

**Cast:** Adam DeVine, Pierce Brosnan, Ellen Barkin, Nina Dobrev

- **Watch on:** Netflix

SUBSCRIPTION

| | |
|---|---|
| Netflix: | ₹199/month |
| Prime Video: | ₹299/month |
| MX Player: | ₹499/year |
| Disney+Hotstar: | ₹899/year |
| Lionsgate Play: | ₹699/year |
| Aha Video: | ₹699/year |
| ZEE5: | ₹699/year |
| SONY LIV: | ₹299/month |

# RIDE LIKE A KING

Royal Enfield's Super Meteor 650 is a blissful, comfort rider, that comes alive on open roads

ANILKUMAR T

Majestic tusker that gallops like a stallion — it's the perfect way to describe the ride that is Royal Enfield Super Meteor 650.

Great comfort, a powerful engine, and a stunning design are the basic requirements of everyone's dream cruiser. And Super Meteor 650 is the best option available for cruiser enthusiasts, as it was designed to encapsulate the dreams of every rider.

And after riding this speed machine for two weeks through the city and open highways, my experience with the cruiser was nothing short of a delight, even an ardent off-road lover like me fell in love with this Meteor.

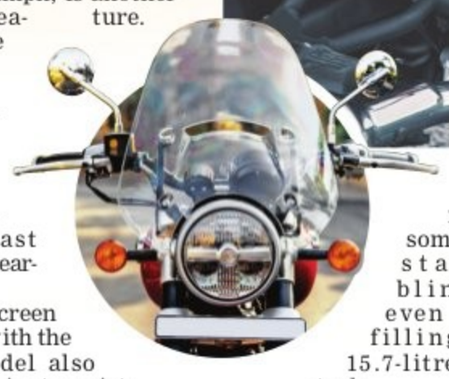
The standout feature, as Enfield claims, is the cruiser's high-powered engine. With the 650-cc parallel-twin engine below you providing ample torque, power, effortless acceleration and an impressive top speed, you can do wonders on the road.

Even if you ride the bike through the city streets, the Super Meteor offers a thrilling experience. You feel the power at your fingertips.

Another important feature of the bike is its armchair-like riding position, something that most cruiser bikes offer. The feet-forward foot controls and raised, wide handlebars with well-padded grips made my 200-kilometre journey, pure joy.

The long single seat and the back support also provide a comfortable ride for the pillion rider. When I went on top speed, it felt like I was 'floating on the air'. At those speeds, the engine feels calm, as the windblast isn't much of a bother.

The stability on the road, even while manoeuvring the bike at 100 kmph, is another important feature. Even while riding in the heavy rain, the fat rear tyres and the suspension ensured clear stability for a beast that weighs nearly 241kg.



The windscreen that comes with the top-end model also acts as a barrier to resist the wind. However, the suspension's performance while juggling through city potholes was terrible, as the rider could feel the vibration on their back.

The Super Meteor 650's integration with modern technology is another added advantage. With features such as LED lighting, a digital instrument cluster, and advanced braking systems, it ensures both safety and convenience. Its instrument cluster combines the timeless elegance of an analogue speedometer with the functionality of an LCD for essentials such as revs, gear indicators, fuel gauge, clock, and trip meter.

In the dark, the LED lights, which are new for RE, provide excellent visibility. Though the cruiser provided an average mileage of 20–25 on the highway, the fuel gauge meter's performance made it uncomfortable. The fuel indicator on the meter sometimes started blinking even after filling its 15.7-litre fuel tank.

The smoothness of shifting gear was another impressive feature that the RE paid attention to. Compared to other 350 machines, Meteor offers worry-free gear shifting.

The biggest disadvantage of this Meteor is the bad turning radius, usual for a cruiser. It may take the space required by a car to make a U-turn or while riding down a small road. Since the bike weighs 241kg, it will be difficult for a normal person to push or move it manually. So, don't expect perfection while riding through the busy city roads.

The lack of accessories, which include a crash guard, is another disadvantage. While the Enfield gives much importance to the safety feature, it shouldn't compromise on the crash guard and other basic accessories.

The build quality of this bike is excellent. So is the design. Well-painted panels, metal parts mostly blacked out, and the switchgear being absolutely premium just add up to a much better experience.

This Meteor is available in five striking colours — Astral Black, Astral Blue, Astral Green, Interstellar Grey, and Interstellar Green. The Super Meteor 650 Tourer, which comes kitted out with a windscreen, deluxe seat, and pillion backrest, is available in two distinctive finishes — Celestial Red and Celestial Blue.

Overall, the Meteor 650 has set a new benchmark for cruisers. Whether you're a seasoned cruiser enthusiast or a rider looking to embark on a new adventure, the Super Meteor 650 is a dream come true.

**PRICE**

**Astral:** ₹3,48,900

**Interstellar:** ₹3,63,900

**Super Meteor 650 (Tourer) Celestial:** ₹3,78,900

**SPECS**

**Engine Type:** Parallel twin, 4 stroke, SOHC, Air-cooled

**Displacement:** 648cc

**Compression ratio:** 9.5:1

**Maximum power:** 34.6 kW (47PS) @7250 rpm

**Maximum torque:** 52.3 Nm @5650 rpm

**Clutch:** Wet, multi-plate

**Gearbox:** 6 speed constant mesh

**Fuel supply:** Electronic Fuel Injection

**Air cleaner:** Paper element

**Engine start:** Electric

**Headlamp:** FPL 1.55 W LED

**DIMENSIONS**

**Wheelbase:** 1,500 mm

**Ground clearance:** 135 mm

**Length:** 2,260 mm

**Width:** 890 mm (without mirrors)

**Height:** 1,155 mm

**Seat height:** 740 mm

**Kerb weight:** 241 kg (with 90% fuel & oil)

**Fuel capacity:** 15.7 litres

**BRAKES & TYRES**

**Front tyre:** 100/90 - 19 M/C 57H (tubeless type)

**Rear tyre:** Rr. 150/80 B16 M/C 71H (tubeless type)

**Brakes (Front):** Single 320mm disc, twin-piston floating caliper

**Brakes Rear:** Single 300mm disc, twin-piston floating caliper

**ABS:** Dual channel

XPRESS HIGHWAY
FORTNIGHTLY SEGMENT ON WHAT'S REVVING UP IN THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

# Crafted for the city

LEKSHMI C PILLAI

TATA'S Tiago EV is one of the cheapest electric cars in India, and that has led to its rapid popularity. However, it is not just the price that makes it a crowd pleaser, the umpteen number of features it offers is something unusual for a regular small car.

Like the electric versions of the Nexon and Tigor, the Tiago EV also looks similar to the petrol models.

Though it is not a specially designed platform for an electric car, the company has managed to incorporate the battery and motor into the Tiago very cleverly.

It has a 19.2kWh battery pack model with a claimed range of 250km and a 24kWh battery pack model with a claimed range of 315 km. Around 60–70 per cent of the sales are for models with larger batteries. This model is available in five variants so the choice is endless.

Also, there are four charging options available — a standard 15 amp power plug, 3.3kw AC charger, 7.2kw AC charger and a DC fast charger.

After driving the EV with a 24kWh battery for a week, I found that it is a car for normal daily needs. A range of 200 km is usually not difficult to achieve.

It has three regeneration modes to regulate the amount of electrical charge restored in the battery during braking and deceleration. When it is at its highest level (3), the speed approaches zero as soon as the accelerator is released. Thus, the vehicle can be slowed quickly without using the brakes, and the wear of the brake pads will be less. This is an added benefit.

There is a normal drive mode and a sport mode. The range is the lowest if the regeneration level is zero and the drive mode is Sport. I could achieve the maximum range with regen level-3 in normal mode. This works best in city traffic.

The compact proportion coupled with the maneuverability of it makes driving easy. I loved features like projector headlamps, auto headlamps, rain-sensing wiper, rear washer and wiper, connectivity and infotainment system with harman audio etc, too.

Tiago EV's price ranges from ₹8.69 lakh to ₹12.04 lakh. The average cost of electricity is ₹1.25 per km. The fuel cost of a similar sized petrol car will be around ₹8. One can easily calculate the difference in running costs and decide which one suits one's usage. If our daily commute is 30 km, we will save at least ₹5,000 every month on fuel costs if we use the EV, in place of a petrol car.

The writer is a freelance auto expert who hosts TV shows and anchors the YouTube channel 'CARKADUVA'

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, JUDE MERWEN CRASTA, Aged about 59 years, S/o. Robert Crasta, residing at No232/1 Ullasappa Road Near St Pius Church Kammanahalli St Thomas Town Post Bangalore 560084, have changed my name to **JUDE MARWIN CRASTA** for all purpose. vide affidavit dated 16.06.2023 sworn before Advocate and Notary Uday Kuamr .K, Bangalore

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, Akarsh M G father of RAAISHA MAHADIKAR AKARSH. R/a Brigade 7 Gardens , 37/1 Tower E , E337 Paduka Mandira road Subramanyapura Uttarahalli Hobli Bangalore -560061. I have changed my minor daughter name to **RAAISHA AKARSH MAHADIKAR** Vide Affidavit dt: 08/07/2023. Sworn Before Notary: RAVI KUMAR. V

**AFFIDAVIT**
I, **KUNAL VIMALKUMAR SHARMA,** Aged about 35 Years, S/o. Vimalkumar Sharma, Residing at Flat No. 2A-405, Corporate Leisure Arcadia, Chikkabellandur, Near Carmelaram Church, Gunjur Doddakanelli Road, Bangalore-560035, Karnataka hereby declare that my names **KUNAL VIMALKUMAR SHARMA and KUNAL SHARMA** belongs to one and the same person, henceforth, I have decided to continue my name in future as **KUNAL VIMALKUMAR SHARMA** vide affidavit dated 08-07-2023 sworn to before notary B.M. Chandrashekar, Bangalore

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, SERVICE NO 15320188M HAV RAYAVARAPU SIVA NAGARAJU of unit: DBHQ, DEPOT BN, MEG & CENTRE, BANGALORE, KARNATAKA (State), PIN: 560042, Have Changed My Mother Name **(OLD NAME) CHINTHALLI** to **(NEW NAME) RAYAVARAPU CHINNATALLI,** Vide Affidavit Dated 04.07.2023 Sworn Before Notary S.I. BALAGURU BANGALORE.

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **BHARATESH BHOOPAL MUKARE** S/o. BHOOPAL MUKARE, residing at Sobha Palmcourt, Kogilu Main Road, No.3123, Wing 3, Maruthi nagar, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560064, my name **BHARATESH BHOOPAL MUKARE** and **BHARATESH** both are name of the same person. and my wife **JYOTI BHARATESH MUKARE** and **JYOTI** both are name of the same person. vide affidavit Dated: 07.07.2023 before Notary S.R. Ravikumar, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **(OLD NAME) IRAM MEHBOOB** residing at No.#7, 4th Cross, Brindavanam Layout, Kaval Byrasandra, R.T.Nagar Post, Bengaluru 560032, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) IRAM MEHBOOB** to **(NEW NAME) IRAM PARVEZ** vide affidavit dated 07.07.2023 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **(OLD NAME) ZAYNEB FAREED KASHIF** residing at # 15/68, Regina Mary, Ground Floor, 1st Cross, Nandeshwara Badavane, Near KRC Bus Stop, Kyalasanahalli, Doddagubi Main Road, Bengaluru 560077, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) ZAYNEB FAREED KASHIF** to **(NEW NAME) ZAYNEB FAREED** vide affidavit dated 07.07.2023 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **ANJANA NAYAR PREMA**, Aged about 57 years, W/o. Mr. Kishore Kumar Madhavan Pillai, Residing at No. 9U, Block C, Arattukulam Lakeview County, Manipal County Road, Singasandra, Bangalore-560068, had changed my name and adopted my new name **ANJANA NAIR**, "before the Notary Public Shri. B.M. Chandrashekar, Bangalore on 18th day of June 2023.

**CHANGE OF NAME (MINOR DAUGHTER)**
I, 2598058-A EX/HAV M.UDHAYA KUMAR S/o Late T. Melagiri, aged about 48 years, residing at No.18, 3rd Cross, T.G.Palya Main Road, Karihobanahalli, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560 058, have Changed my minor daughter's name from **SHAKTI.U** to **SHAKTHI.U,** vide affidavit dated **07-07-2023** sworn before **Advocate and Notary, Govt. of India, Ravi Kumar .V, B.Com., LLB,** At Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **DEEPAK** S/o Balakrishna R/o No.18/40, 21st Main Road, Marenahalli, Vijayanagar-560040, Bengaluru. Do hereby solemnly affirm that I have changed my name to **DEEPAK BALAKRISHNA GONDHALI**, vide Affidavit dated 8th Jul 2023, before Advocate and Notary, **Deepa .M**, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **Mr. Rahul,** S/o Mr. Basant Kumar Newar, Father of Ayyun Newar, resident of JA1802, Greenage, Hosur Main Road, Bangalore-560068. Hereby declare that, I have changed my Minor Son's [Aged 08 Years] name from **'AYAN NEWAR'** to **"AYYUN NEWAR"**. Vide Affidavit Dated:08/07/2023. Sworn before Advocate and Notary K.V.Mani, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
We, Mr. CHANDRASHEKAR., aged about 42 years, S/o Late Krishnappa, Mrs. REKHASHREE C, aged about 31 Years, W/o Chandrashekar, Both are residing at No.9/A, 8th Main, SBI Staff Colony, Basaveshwaranagara, Bangalore-560079, we have changed our daughter's name from **HARSHIKA C to HARINI C** vide affidavit dated 07.07.2023 sworn before Advocate and Notary Onkarappa N.R., Bangalore

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I. **MANJUNATHA.** S/o. **NANJAPPA** and **NANJAMMA.** # 17/1, 1st Cross, Cubbonpet Bengaluru 560002. have Changed my name to **NANJAPPA MANJUNATHA.** vide affidavit dated: 07/07/2023 Before Notary **MAMATHA .N.K** Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **(OLD NAME) SHAKINA SHEKH** residing at # 79/2, 2nd Cross, Ajjappa Block, Dinnur, R.T.Nagar Post, Bengaluru 560032, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) SHAKINA SHEKH** to **(NEW NAME) SAKINA SHAIKH** vide affidavit dated 07.07.2023 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **ANNAPPA.H** S/o Sri. Huchchappa Malladad, aged about 45 years, residing at No.221, 7th Cross, Opp: Prasanna Venkateshwara Temple, Vijayashree Layout, Mallasandra, Bengaluru-560 059, have changed my name from **ANNAPPA** to **ANNAPPA.H** vide affidavit dated 7/7/2023 sworn to before T. Mallikarjuna advocate and notary Bangalore

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **NAGINA TAJ**, W/o. Enayath Ulla Shariff, Aged about 31 years, R/at No. 2812, 4th Block, Sri. M. Vishweshwaraiah Layout, Ullal Upanagar, Bengaluru - 560 110, do hereby declare that, **NAGINA TAJ** and **NAGINA TAJ SHARIFF** are one and the same and both the names belongs to me only and for none others and in future I will continue my name **NAGINA TAJ SHARIFF** only for all purposes. Vide affidavit dated 07.07.2023 sworn to before Dr. R.S. Vijay, Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME (MINOR DAUGHTER)**
I, 2598058-A EX/HAV M.UDHAYA KUMAR S/o Late T.Melagiri aged about 48 Years, residing at No.18, 3rd Cross, T.G.Palya Main Road, Karihobanahalli, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560 058, have Changed my minor daughter's name from **U.MOULIYA** to **MOULYA.U,** tide affidavit dated **07-07-2023** sworn before, **Advocate and Notary, Govt of India, Ravi Kumar.V, B.Com., LLB,** At Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **MAHENDRA KUMAR MAHESHWARI AND M K MAHESWARI** S/O **HARI PRASAD BIHANI** Aged **72** Residing at #38 Millers Tank Bund Road kaveriappa Layout, Vasanth Nagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore Karnataka 560001, Have Changed My Name to **MAHENDRA KUMAR BIHANI,** Vide Affidavit Dated 03-07-2023 Sworn Before NOTARY, **S N MADHU BANGALORE** -560085.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, PRATHIBHA BHEEMRAJ, D/o. Aswatha Narayana, aged about 48 years, resident of No. 29/1, 5th Block, Near Mudduramma Temple, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010 have changed my name to PRATHIBHA ASWATHA NARAYANA Vide Affidavit dt: 07/07/2023. sworn before Advocate and Notary M.S. Satish, Bangalore

**AFFIDAVIT**
I, **Sri. K.P.PUNITH KUMAR,** S/o. Sri.Purushothama Raju and Smt.M.Radhamani and the Grand Son of Late.S.Muniraju, Aged about 43 years, residing at No.518,8th Main, Sadashivanagar, Bangalore-560080. I state that, my recorded name in School, College, Adhaar and Voter ID card is **'K.P.PUNITH KUMAR'.** I have also been called as **'K.P.GOVINDA'**, by my Grand Father, Late. S. Muniraju, S/o. Late. Sajeeva Raju and also recorded it in the registered Administration Deed, and I, Hereby declare that **'K.P.GOVINDA'**& **'K.P.PUNITH KUMAR'** names are one and the same and it refers to me only, Vide Affidavit Dated 05/07/2023, Sworn before Advocate and Notary Sri.S.N.Madhu, Bangalore.

**NAME DECLARATION**
I, **SIDDHARTH KARANIK D** S/o Dayananda K, R/at M.G.Road, Subhash Nagara, Nelamangala Town, Bangalore Rural Dist -562123.
I say that my name has been in Aadhar card, & Pan card & some other documents my name mentioned as **"SIDDHARTH KARANIK D"** and my name has been entered in pass port **"SIDDHARTH KARANIK"**
I declare that **"SIDDHARTH KARANIK D'** and **"SIDDHARTH KARANIK"** both names are same person and belongs to me only. vide Affidavit Dated:**07/07/2023** sworn before **R.Lakshminarayana,** Advocate & Notary at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **(OLD NAME) AISHA GULAM NAGVADARIYA** residing at # 20, 1st Floor, 2nd E Cross, Sultanpalya, Kaval Byrasandra, R.T.Nagar Post, Bengaluru 560032, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) AISHA GULAM NAGVADARIYA** to **(NEW NAME) AYSHA HAJI GULAM NAGVADARIA** vide affidavit dated 07.07.2023 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, Sqn Ldr. Prakash Babu T., S/o. Mr. Madhavan Nair, aged about 59 years, R/at B0, Sadhguru Homes, Gulmohar Enclave Road, Behind Golconda Chimney Restaurant, Kundalahalli Gate, Bengaluru - 560037, Karnataka, India, I have changed my name from **'SQN LDR. PRAKASH BABU T'** or **'PRAKASHBABU THRITHALA'** or **'PRAKASHBABU. T'** to **'THRITHALA PRAKASH BABU'**. Vide affidavit dated 08.07.2023 Sworn before Indira S.S, Advocate & Notary Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **SACHIN KUMAR .S**, S/o. Sundar Raj, Aged about 27 years, Resident of No. 32/5, 'Nataraj Building', 7th 'G' Street, Goripalya, J.J.R. Nagar, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560 018, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SACHIN KUMAR** to **SACHIN KUMAR .S** vide affidavit dated 07.07.2023 sworn to before B.S. Hemanth Kumar, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I **GOLLAPUDI SHRI KATHYAYANI** D/o V G Subba Rao, Resident of No.1751, 6th Cross, 6th Main, Judicial Layout, GKVK Post, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560065. Do hereby declare as per my Aadhar Card and Educational Documents my name is **Gollapudi Shri Kathyayani,** but in my Passport, my name is wrongly mentioned as **Gollapudi Shri Katyayani.** Both the names belong to me only and henceforth my name will be **GOLLAPUDI SHRI KATHYAYANI**, Vide affidavit dated 07.07.2023 sworn to before Advocate and Notary **L.B.Anasuyamma**, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, C A MANJUNATH (New Name), S/o. C V Anantharama Shetty, residing at No.24, 25, 1st Floor, Banashankari Nilaya, 5th Main, 7th Cross, Shakambari Nagar, J P Nagar 1st Phase, Bangalore-560078, Karnataka, India, that I have changed my name from MANJUNATHA C A (Old Name) to C A MANJUNATH (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called C A MANJUNATH (New Name) only for all purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 08/07/2023, before Notary MOHAMMED HUSSAIN. K, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
**I, PRITHVI, S/o. Mr. Navin Hoige residing at No. 186/D, Akshaya, 5th Main, 4th Block, S T Bed Layout, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560034, have changed my name to**
**PRITHVI HOIGE**
**vide Affidavit dated 6th July 2023, sworn before Notary Mr. Mohammed Hussain K. Bangalore.**

A still from the film

# 'WE AIM TO BRING KAATERA TO THE SCREENS DURING THE DASARA FESTIVAL'

...says producer Rockline Venkatesh, confirming the swift progress of the Darshan starrer directed by Tharun Kishore Sudhir

A SHARADHAA

THE shooting of *Kaatera*, featuring the Challenging star Darshan and directed by Tharun Kishore Sudhir, is progressing briskly, with only small schedule breaks. The team is currently in the final stages of shooting crucial portions of the film.

Producer Rockline Venkatesh, who is bankrolling the project under his banner, has meticulously planned the release strategy. He stated, "We are actively working on the release plans, and accordingly we aim to bring *Kaatera* to the screens during the Dasara festival. Our team is working towards to meet this target date."



Rockline Venkatesh

This news undoubtedly brings cheer to all the fans of the Challenging Star, who have eagerly awaited the announcement of the film's release date. *Kaatera*, has been creating a buzz, since the time of inception, especially with its captivating theme poster, which depicts a dog leading a flock of sheep, emphasising the responsibility of leaders.

The team later treated the audience with a motion poster and glimpses that showcased a blood-stained machete, accompanied by a powerful punchline delivered by Darshan. Dressed in a dark maroon t-shirt and lungi, Darshan wields the machete amidst a backdrop of farmers. *Kaatera* is said to be inspired by a real-life incident set in a 1970s village in Karnataka.

*Kaatera* marks the debut of Malashree's daughter, Radhana Ram. The film also features acclaimed actors Jagapathi Babu and Kumar Govind in pivotal roles, along with senior actors Biradar, Master Rohit, and Danish Akhtar Saifi in the cast. Maasthi has penned the dialogues, V Harikrishna is composing the music, and Sudhakar S Raj is handling the cinematography of the film.

# Srinagar Kitty to face off against Aditya in *Terror*

CE FEATURES

SRINAGAR Kitty, known for effortlessly transitioning between lead roles and pivotal characters across various genres, is set to essay the role of an antagonist in the upcoming film, *Terror*.

Directed by debutant Ranjan Shivaram Gowda, the movie will feature Kitty in a face-off with lead actor Aditya. The announcement, accompanied by a poster, was made recently, and the film is currently in its third schedule.

Aditya

According to the director, *Terror* revolves around the mafia but offers a unique take on the gangster genre. "Aditya portrays a gangster in the film, while Kitty takes on the challenging role of his opponent. Their dynamic as adversaries promises an intriguing watch," says the director, as he revealed that Aditya is undergoing martial arts training for the upcoming schedule.

*Terror* boasts an ensemble cast, including Sharath Lohithasva, Mimicry Dayanand, and Dharma Muni, among others. The director plans to reveal further details about the other actors as and when they join the sets. Produced by Silk Manju under UPPI Entertainers, the film features music by Harsha Vardhan Raaj and cinematography by Naveen Kumar.

# Dhruva Sarja and the team *Martin* resume shooting

CE FEATURES

DHRUVA Sarja, the Action Prince of Sandalwood, is balancing between *Martin*, directed by A P Arjun, and Prem's *KD*. The actor, who was on the sets of KD will now shift his focus entirely to *Martin*, which is in its final stages.

The shooting of this multilingual film will kick off from today with some pending patchwork and will be followed by the completion of four songs before wrapping up the film.

*Martin* promises to be an action-packed entertainer with a storyline written by well-known actor Arjun Sarja. The film's teaser, released on February 23 this year, received positive feedback for its breathtaking action stunts and amassed millions of digital views.

Simultaneously, the team is working on the post-production work, giving significant attention to the CG aspects. *Martin* will also be dubbed in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, and Hindi.

Alongside Dhruva Sarja, the film features Vaibhavi Shandilya as the female lead, supported by Anveshi Jain and Sukruta Wagle in pivotal roles. Uday K Mehta is bankrolling the project under the Vasavi Enterprises banner, with music composed by Mani Sharma and Ravi Basrur taking charge of the background score. Satya Hegde is responsible for the cinematography, while the action sequences in *Martin* have been crafted by renowned stunt choreographers Ram-Lakshman and Ravi Varma.

A still from the film

# Release date of *Devara Kanasu* is locked

CE FEATURES

Team *Devara Kanasu*

*DEVARA Kanasu*, a children's film directed by debutant Suresh Lakkoor, which made its way to the Cannes Film Festival, where it received a panel screening and final selection, is all set to release in theaters across Karnataka on July 21.

The trailer of the film was launched by Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar at a recent event.

*Devara Kanasu* starring talented child artistes, Deepak and Amoolya in the lead roles, highlights the innocence of a village boy and his struggles for a livelihood, intricately woven with themes of Swacha Bharat (Clean India), women empowerment, and the issue of alcohol abuse. "The film beautifully captures the essence of culture and rural life," says the director.

Alongside the lead cast, the film also features Youvaraj Kini, Arushi Vedika, Mani, Roopa, and Vijay Rakesh.

Suresh Lakkoor, has doubles up as the producer, and the music rights is bagged by PRK audio. With music by Sandy Sandallow, the film has dialogues and lyrics penned by Lingaraj Itihasa. The cinematography of is handled by Ratnajit Roy.

Aira Serviced Apartments
AIRA
Serviced Apartments Pvt. Ltd.
# 18, 4th Main, HAL 2nd Stage, Kodihalli Extn, Bangalore - 560 008
Landmark : Off Old Airport Road, Near Leela Palace Hotel,
Opp. to Manipal Hospital. www.theaira.com, booking@theaira.com
Ph : 411055556 / 41155557